The Literary Digest

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL SITUATION.

SOMEWHAT more than a quarter of the 994 delegates to the National Democratic convention in St. Louis on July 6 have been chosen, and as State after State indicates or intimates its choice of a candidate, the uncertainty that has been clouding the situation is clearing away. Two aspirants are now recognized by the press as being far in advance of any others, but each is meeting with an opposition that may, in the convention, defeat the nomination of either and give the victory to a "dark horse." Judge Parker has gained tremendous prestige by New York's indorsement of him, but he is encountering the antagonism of the Bryan wing of the party, who point to his association with David B. Hill and August Belmont, and accuse him of capitalistic sympathies. Mr. Bryan made Judge Parker's supposed capitalistic sympathies the text for a violent attack upon him in a speech in Chicago on Saturday evening of last week. Mr. Hearst has secured forty or fifty delegates from the smaller States, but lacks the indorsement of his own State, and has failed, thus far, to control the delegation of any large commonwealth. The results of the conventions already held are given at the end of this article.

The New York *Times* (Ind. Dem.), one of the foremost friends of Judge Parker, feels that New York's indorsement "may be considered practically as a determination in advance of the choice of the St. Louis convention," and so say the great majority of the Southern Democratic papers. "As far as anything in politics can be certain, Judge Parker will be the nominee," believes the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* (Dem.); and the Montgomery (Ala.) *Advertiser* (Dem.) agrees that his nomination "is virtually assured." The New York indorsement "decides the question," declares the Mobile *Register* (Dem.). The Houston *Post* (Dem.) even looks for his nomination on the first ballot, and thinks "it is certain that the contest can not proceed beyond the second." "New York has not only nominated Judge Parker for the Presidency, but practically insured his election to that office," is the opinion of the Memphis *Commercial Appeal* (Dem.); and another Tennessee paper, the Nashville *News* (Dem.) predicts that Tennessee will instruct her delegates for him.

"Only the advocates of Mr. Hearst will keep up the struggle, altho its uselessness is apparent," remarks the Columbia (S. C.) *State* (Dem.); and the Atlanta *Journal* (Dem.) advises Mr. Hearst "to withdraw from further hopeless efforts." The Hearst boom "grows weaker and more ridiculous as the time for holding the convention draws near," says the Nashville *Banner* (Ind. Dem.); and the Louisville *Courier-Journal* (Dem.) declares that it is already a wreck. Says the latter paper:

"It never had any real vitality. At one time it looked as tho by the aid of Mr. Hearst's money Mr. Bryan might be able to secure a third of the convention. The most sanguine friends of the Nebraskan begin to realize that this hope is now quite dissipated. If Mr. Hearst's name goes before the convention and he gets more than a hundred votes, we shall be greatly surprised. A vote for Mr. Hearst implies too much, and will prove too retroactive to tempt many even of the more insensible and mercenary of those who are in politics for what they expect of its emoluments, because no one can give an intelligent reason why he favors such an aspirant for such a place except that he has his money in his pocket.

"The Democratic party is not yet a marketable quantity, nor will its delegates in the next national convention be chopped off like mutton cutlets by the hand of any butcher wielding a cleaver of gold. The Hearst papers have had a world of advertising. But Mr. Hearst has given his career such a black eye, has inflicted such a wound upon his higher ambitions, if he has any, as he will not be able to outlive in a generation, even should he later along show himself a man of approved ability and signal merit. We are entirely sincere in saying that we could have wished him better things."

The Augusta (Ga.) *Chronicle* (Dem.) calls upon Mr. Bryan and his friends to fall into line for Parker and accept the "regularity" that he has demanded of others in the past. It remarks:

"Mr. Bryan and his few remaining followers must see that they have lost control of the party; that the pendulum has swung back. The conservative element of the party is once more on top, and only under conservative leadership has the party any hope of success.

"It has in Judge Parker a leader who will at once win the confidence of the country. With a conservative platform for him to stand on, nothing but dissensions within the party can prevent his election next November.

"It is for Mr. Bryan and his followers to prove their party loyalty, as millions of Democrats proved theirs eight years ago when he undertook to reorganize things. Indeed, he has now the opportunity to endear himself to the party as he never has before, by laying aside personal feelings and raising his voice for Democratic harmony. It is not too much to expect of him what he has twice demanded of others. Any display of the dog-in-the-manger spirit at this critical period in his party's history will proclaim him the most unworthy of all the party's leaders."

But the Bryan and Hearst forces show no disposition to accept this advice. Mr. Bryan's *Commoner* and Mr. Hearst's papers are filled with denunciations of the Parker-Hill-Belmont coterie as friends of the trusts, and intimations are freely made that the trusts are using the Parker candidacy to mask an attempt to capture the party. The Norfolk *Virginian-Pilot* (Dem.) points to Tammany's opposition to instructing the New York delegation for Parker as evidence that Tammany will withhold its cooperation in the campaign if Parker is nominated. "Without such cooperation Judge Parker can not carry New York State, and without New

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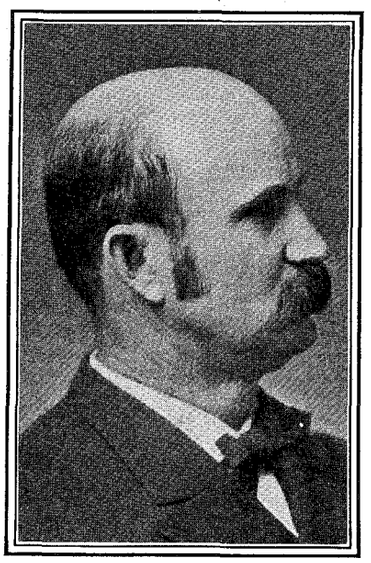


EX-SENATOR DAVID B. HILL,

Manager of the Parker boom. Says Mr. Bryan: "It can be safely taken for granted that in case of Judge Parker's nomination and election, Mr. Hill would be the controlling figure in the administration, and that would mean that those who attempted to reach the White House would have to wade through peanut shells knee deep. Mr. Hill stands for everything bad that Mr. Cleveland stands for, and lacks the brutal frankness that has given Mr. Cleveland most of his popularity."

MAX F. IHMSEN,

Manager of the Hearst boom. Walter Wellman, the Washington correspondent, reckons that Mr. Hearst's campaign has cost him $1,500,000 since the first of the year, and predicts that he will not have more than one hundred delegates in the convention.

AUGUST BELMONT,

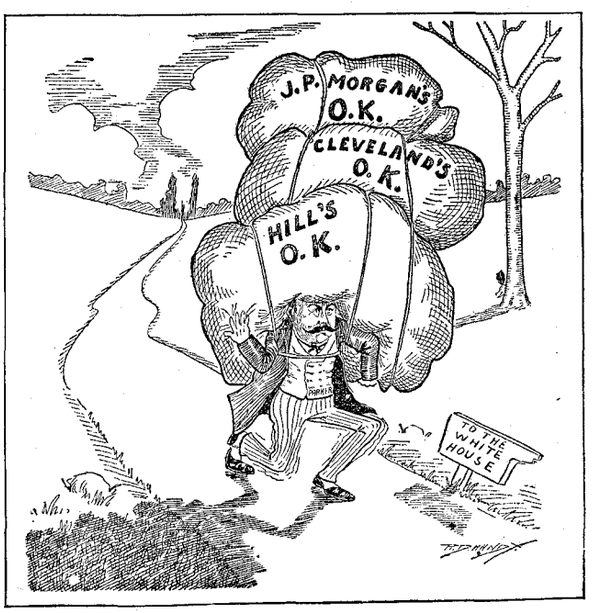
American representative of the Rothschilds, and officer and director of many large railway, banking, manufacturing, and other corporations. Mr. Bryan says: "August Belmont is too shrewd a financier to advance money or loan influence without security, and the fact that he is exerting himself to secure the nomination of Judge Parker ought to convince any reasonable mind that with Parker in the chair the judges appointed to the Supreme Court would be known in advance to sympathize with the corporations on the great issues which have been dividing the country."

MEN BEHIND THE BOOMS.

York State he can not be elected," it adds, and declares that this makes him an impossibility. The Atlanta *News* (Dem.), a supporter of Hearst, makes the same charge against Judge Parker, and predicts that his boom "is certain to burst before the national convention." *The Tammany Times* (Dem., New York) predicts that Hearst will win. "This is the age of commercialism," says the Columbus (O.) *Press-Post* (Dem.), and the Democratic party will fall into line with this spirit "by the nomination of William Randolph Hearst." It adds:

"George Washington in his day was one of the richest men in America, and yet he tendered his services to the colonial congress in behalf of the colonial armies without salary and without compensation. So it is with William Randolph Hearst to-day. He is one of the rich men of the country, but he tenders, and has ten-

THE PIE IS NOT BADLY DAMAGED, BUT ITS LOOKS ARE SPOILED.
—Bowers in the Indianapolis *News*.



WILL HE EVER GET THERE WITH THAT LOAD?
—Handy in the Duluth *News-Tribune*.

CANDIDATES IN CARICATURE.

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dered for many years, his entire ability and property as an individual, as a journalist, as a business man, and a capitalist to the service of the scores of millions of American people who are now resisting the greed and arrogance of the American trustocracy.

"Mr. Hearst not only has convictions, but he has the courage of his convictions. Andrew Jackson did not show more courage in resisting the greed of Nicholas Biddle and the United States bank than has Mr. Hearst shown in the last eight years resisting the greed of the predatory rich—a get-rich-quick aristocracy without breeding, without breadth, without culture, and without any more interest in the welfare of the people of our country in our day than had George III. and his satellites in the people of our country in his day.

"Mr. Hearst is a man who does things, and is ready and anxious to do more. He has demonstrated by his record as a journalist, business man, and public man that he sincerely desires the greatest good to the greatest number. As a Democrat he was regular when others were traitors. He was loyal when others were bolters; he was aggressive when others were cowards. He has never been a trimmer nor a straddler.

"God hates a coward. The voice of the people is the voice of God, and it will be found when the Democratic national convention assembles in St. Louis, on the 6th of July, that the American people will repudiate the cowards and nominate a Democratic business man, and his name is—William Randolph Hearst."

BRYAN TO PARKER—"Shoo-o! You're on the wrong nest!"
—Richards in the New York *Evening Mail.*

The Democratic state conventions held thus far have resulted as follows:

RHODE ISLAND, on March 10, chose eight uninstructed delegates, of whom six are pledged to Hearst. The six have declared for the unit rule, so Mr. Hearst claims the entire delegation.

SOUTH DAKOTA, on March 30, chose eight instructed Hearst delegates.

KANSAS, on April 7, chose twenty uninstructed delegates, and adopted resolutions complimenting Mr. Hearst. The delegates, by personal preferences, are said to stand six for Hearst and fourteen against him, but in view of the resolutions, Mr. Hearst claims them all.

NEW JERSEY, on April 14, chose twenty-four uninstructed delegates. The Hearst minority in the convention withdrew and named a contesting delegation, but Mr. Hearst does not count them in his summary of Hearst delegates.

NEW MEXICO, on April 14, chose six instructed Hearst delegates.

NEW YORK, on April 18, chose seventy-eight instructed Parker delegates.

PENNSYLVANIA, on April 19, elected sixty-eight delegates and instructed them to vote as a unit. The P
says there is "no reasonable doubt" that they

OREGON, on April 19, chose eight uninsti
whom Mr. Hearst claims six.

WEST VIRGINIA, on April 20, chose fourteen
gates. Mr. Hearst claims five of them, but his
him only two. The rest are said to be for Senat
choice and Judge Parker as second.

The NEVADA State central committee, on April 20, chose six delegates and adopted resolutions complimenting Mr. Bryan and Mr. Hearst. Mr. Hearst claims the delegates.

MASSACHUSETTS, on April 21, chose thirty-two instructed Olney delegates.

A number of district delegates have been chosen in other States, but as they may be instructed by the state conventions, they can not be catalogued at this time.

A REEF THAT MAY WRECK THE TRUSTS.

"THE rock on which some trusts have been wrecked and others are likely to be" has been found and charted by *The Iron Age*. It is the neglect of "the personal element" by the business management of the big concerns. The "bicycle trust" foundered on this reef, and *The Iron Age* hints that others are driving right for the same shoal. The editor illustrates what he means by sketching the enthusiasm of the salesman who is working for John Smith, and his absence of enthusiasm when he is working for an impersonal trust; and as *The Iron Age* is one of the foremost trade journals in the country, we can safely assume that the editor knows whereof he speaks. Here is his illustration:

"John Smith starts in a manufacturing business, with relatively small capital; but by dint of hard work and careful attention to details he builds it up step by step until he has representatives all over the country, enthusiastically and earnestly pushing the John-Smith line. They know John Smith and his history. They are proud of his achievements. They feel that nothing is turned out of his factory that has not received his personal sanction. They get letters from John Smith, commending them for good work done or berating them for mistakes. The letters are full of good advice and safe counsel. They see John Smith when they go to headquarters, and personal touch with him only heightens their enthusiasm. They feel that he has an interest in them, and they reciprocate loyally.

"Smith eventually sells his business out to a trust, in which Brown, Jones, Robinson, and a half-dozen other manufacturers, whose product Smith's salesmen have been taught to believe is inferior to Smith's, are included. Smith is made vice-president of the concern, and they never hear from him again. Instead, they receive instructions signed by the consolidation and countersigned in unrecognized initials. It possibly becomes evident that the man with the initials, who attempts to give them instructions, does not fully comprehend what he is talking about. Yet his letters are couched in such authoritative language that they fear to disobey even the most absurd commands, tho they may know that it is business suicide to obey. In time they visit the home office and meet the man with the initials, to find, perhaps, that he is a callow youth—possibly a nephew of the president—who knows nothing about the trials of a salesman or branch-office manager, and but little about the merits of the goods."

After remarking that the collapse of the bicycle trust "was partly due to the loss of this element of enthusiasm on the part of agents and dealers who had persuaded themslves that the particular wheel they were handling was better than the rest, and, further, the chilling of the enthusiasm of the rider himself, who always spoke the name of his mount with conscious pride," the editor goes on to say:

"The personal factors of the selling equation can not be ignored, and the consolidation that neglects the personality of the salesman on the fighting line is sure to suffer. Rather should consolidations seek the more earnestly to foster the loyalty and pride of the salesman, because the formation of the trust will make his labors all the more difficult, as the average buyer has been educated to the belief that every order he gives to a trust or combina-

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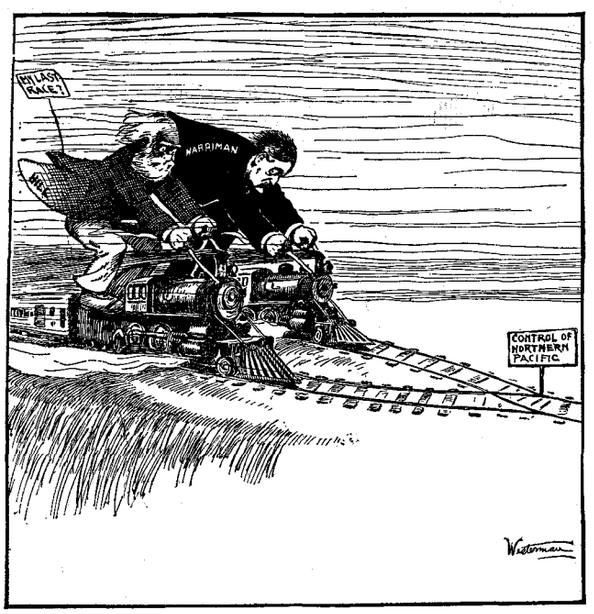
it fosters monopoly and decreases his power to buy advantageously. Even tho the combination maintains as high a standard of excellence in its product as the best product of the best constituent company—which is not apt to be the case—it will be hard for the salesman to convince the buyer that such is the fact.

"Absentee management or control is as distasteful to the business man of to-day as it was to King George's subjects in America when they rebelled against the acts of his governors and emisaries, and it calls for a high order of diplomacy on the part of the sales-manager to keep his men keyed up to concert pitch."

DENSE RAILWAY TRAFFIC AND ACCIDENTS.

THE fact that there are from fifteen to twenty railroad collisions every day in this country, on the average, the year around, according to the figures of the Interstate Commerce Commission, gives the subject of railroad wrecks a vital interest. Something like one passenger and ten employees are killed, on the average, every day; and in one week, last December, more than a hundred passengers lost their lives in three wrecks. The popular supposition has been that in comparison with this frightful record the railroad fatalities in Great Britain are comparatively few; but in *The Railway Age* in January figures were presented to show that "in proportion to mileage, British railways are far more destructive to life and cause far more injuries to life than those in the United States" (see THE LITERARY DIGEST for February 6, p. 167). One of our readers wrote, in comment on this, that the basis of calculation in *The Railway Age's* article is all wrong (see THE LITERARY DIGEST for March 12, p. 358); and now the author of the disputed article, Mr. Slason Thompson, an authority on railroad matters, writes in defense of his reasoning. As the letter contains some important statistics tending to show the safety of suburban traffic around our great cities, figures that have not before been published, we give the letter in full. Says Mr. Thompson:

"As I am the party guilty of presuming to institute a comparison of railway accidents in the United States and Great Britain on



"THE RACE FOR THE SWITCH."

Somebody likely to be hurt.

—Westerman in *The Ohio State Journal*.

the basis of mileage, for publishing which THE DIGEST has been called to account (*vide* letter of Mr. S. C. Thompson, March 12), will you permit me to justify that basis and present some additional evidence in defense of our American railways.

"Your correspondent says that it is 'an astounding assumption that danger and difficulty are in proportion to length of roads; whereas everybody knows that liability to accidents is increased with density and congestion of traffic.'

"If everybody knows this, everybody knows what is not so.

"It is with the multiplication of tracks, switches, bridges, cuts, curves, etc., that the opportunity for accidents increases in an arithmetical, if not a geometrical, rate.

"That accidents do not increase in proportion to density of traffic is proved by the immunity of the suburban traffic around all of our great cities from casualties in train accidents. Let me illustrate this from the figures of the suburban service of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, with which visitors to the World's Fair from all parts of the country are familiar, for the past three years:

SLASON THOMPSON, OF CHICAGO,

Who says that American railroads are safer than British.

NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED.

	Number.	Average distance carried.
1901	10,869,200	6.97
1902	11,683,023	6.75
1903	12,996,289	7.02
Total	35,548,512	6.92

"Not a single passenger was killed in a train accident out of the 35,548,512 carried within an insignificant fraction of seven miles, the average British passenger journey as given by *Engineering*, the highest British authority on such subjects.

"During the period covered by the above table there were six passengers killed, altho not in accidents to trains, as follows:

"By falling from suburban train platform at Grand Crossing in alighting from train in an intoxicated condition.
"By walking immediately in front of train at Twenty-second Street.
"By falling from train near Cheltenham.
"By falling from train when rounding curve near Sixty-seventh Street.
"By jumping from moving train near Twenty-second Street.
"By stepping in front of train at Pullman.

"These cases are illustrative of the casualties which are charged against railways both in England and America, but they are never included in reports dealing solely with accidents to trains.

"As illustrating the comparative safety of another class of railway travel in the United States, and that making the longest journeys, let me give the official figures of the Pullman Company for the three fiscal years ending July 31, 1903:

CASUALTIES ON PULLMAN-CARS IN THREE YEARS.

	1900 to 1903	
Number of passengers carried		32,693,341
Miles run by Pullman-cars		1,085,599,218
Passengers killed	6	
Seriously injured	4	
Slightly injured	64	
Total casualties	74	

"Moreover, the six fatalities reported were in two disastrous railway wrecks in different parts of the country. In all other train accidents no Pullman passenger was killed.

"The Boston and Maine Railroad, with its enormous suburban business out of Boston, went through last year without a passenger fatality in a train accident.

"One word in justification of mileage as the basis of comparison of railway accidents. It is the only one that affords a simple, easily understood, and invariable standard common to all coun-

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tries. That it does no injustice to English railways, even in the matter of density of traffic, is proved by the following figures:

	United States.	United Kingdom.
Miles of track	202,471	22,152
Passenger traffic:		
Number carried (millions)	711	1,320
Number carried one mile (millions)	21,543	9,140
Train mileage (millions)	407	227
Average journey per passenger (miles)	30.30	7
Freight traffic:		
Tons carried (millions)	1,363	437
Tons carried one mile (millions)	178,680	17,494
Train mileage (millions)	500	170
Average haul per ton (miles)	131	40
Employees	1,333,000	575,834

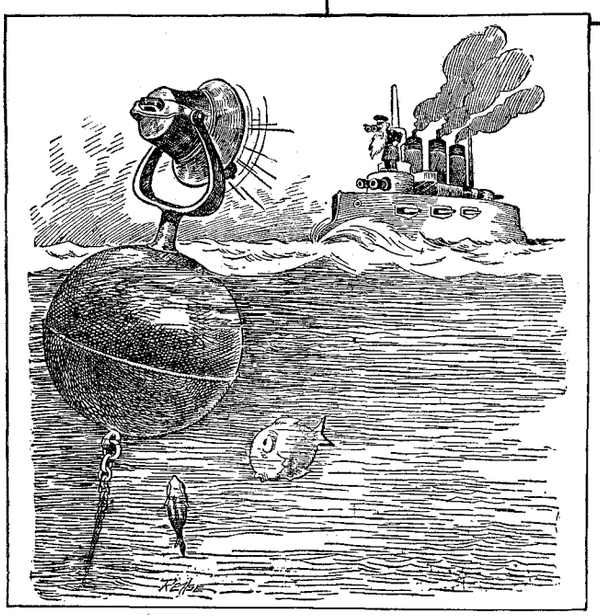
"The true basis of comparison is to be found in the passenger and ton mileage, plus the unascertainable employee mileage. Had I combined these, the ratio of English traffic to American would have been as one to fifteen instead of one to nine. For the sake of a simple, common, and convenient standard I erred on the side of leniency to English railways."

DEATH FOR "WIRELESS" CORRESPONDENTS.

ALEXEIEFF'S threat that war correspondents "who might communicate war news to the enemy by means of perfected apparatus not yet foreseen by existing conventions" will be "looked upon as spies," fails to inspire the consternation that Alexeieff may have intended, but it seems to stir up other emotions equally interesting and less harrowing. The Brooklyn *Eagle*, for instance, suggests that if the Russian fleet starts out on a hunt for the correspondent who is using the "wireless" system, the fleet will be in far greater peril than the correspondent; and the Baltimore *Sun* informs the Russians that if they want to get the real culprit who is spying around Port Arthur, Togo is the man. Other papers regard the manifesto as a pathetic attempt by Alexeieff to show that he can still order somebody around. When Makaroff arrived on the scene of war and took command of the navy and Kuropatkin took command of the army, there was nothing left for Alexeieff to command. In looking about for something to control he naturally, being an admiral, cast his eye seaward, and remembered that the despatch-boat *Haimun*, equipped with wireless telegraph apparatus and carrying Capt. Lionel James as correspondent of the London *Times* and the New York *Times*, was hovering about Port Arthur. Hence the manifesto. Thus far, however, the "wireless" correspondent, and all the rest of the army of reporters, correspondents, and "commissioners" of the press have not been much more successful in sending news than Alexeieff has been in creating it, and if the Japanese have gained any really important information from them, they have done more, suggests the New York *Tribune*, than the rest of the world has been able to do. Most of the war news has come from St. Petersburg, while the correspondents, like Alexeieff himself, have been busy with inconsequential details. It is not expected that Russia will execute the threat of her viceroy, and the British and American governments seem disposed to let the matter rest until the affair assumes a more serious aspect.

RUSSIA'S NOTICE TO THE "WIRELESS" CORRESPONDENT.
—Evans in the Cleveland *Leader*.

BEAR: "Oh that I had wings like a dove!"
—The Philadelphia *Inquirer*.



AS THE RUSSIAN MINES DO NOT BOTHER THE JAPS, THEY MIGHT BE FIXED THIS WAY TO INSURE SAFETY FOR RUSSIAN WARSHIPS.
—Rehse in the St. Paul *Pioneer Press*.

RUSSIA'S PERILS BY LAND, AIR, AND SEA.

Captain James defends himself against the charge that he is a spy as follows:

"The definition of a spy in international law is one who disguises his true identity and insinuates himself within hostile territory for the purpose of communicating with the enemy.

"If I had insinuated myself into Russian waters and had communicated with the Japanese, I might come within this category, but am guilty of neither of these insinuations.

"I possess a system of wireless telegraphy which even if messages were not veiled by cipher neither Japanese nor Russian in-

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struments could record. Messages go to a neutral cable office, and thence to London, no one having access to them.

"I have never yet sailed in Russian waters. All my messages have been sent from the high seas and neutral waters. I would point out that all fighting on shore witnessed could have been placed with neutral cables after five hours' steaming.

"No Power ever dreamed of interfering with neutral cable offices, and the wireless system is only a means of accelerating the despatch of messages. I trust the governments interested will insist that the Russians confine their threats to Russian waters."

The Philadelpia *Inquirer* says that now that the Russians "are showing a more reasonable spirit," and do not seem likely to carry out Alexeieff's threat, "it is easier to admit that there is a basis for the grievance of which their decree was the expression." It adds:

"In these days the world has become a vast whispering gallery, and what is said at one end of it is heard at the other. Statements sent by cable through Europe to the United States are quickly reechoed in Tokyo, and it is easily conceivable that the Japanese might secure an advantage through the use of suggestions in this way communicated. A strict censorship is admittedly essential to the success of military operations, and one of the respects in which the Japanese have shown their extraordinary efficiency is in the impenetrable curtain of secrecy with which they have managed to enshroud their movements. It is difficult to apply an effective censorship to the wireless message, because it is likely to be sent and received from and to points which lie beyond the military zone.

"It may be said that this has been as potentially prejudicial to one side as to the other, and that the Japanese are not complaining; but, all the same, the Russian protest is not unfounded, and the question which has been raised is one which calls for international consideration and settlement. Correspondents using the wireless system must be subjected to some kind of measure of control, and how that control shall be applied will have to be determined by mutual consent."

RESURRECTION OF REPUDIATED STATE BONDS.

SOUTH DAKOTA, a State more often associated in the popular mind with the dissolution of bonds matrimonial than with the resurrection of bonds financial, figures as a principal in a Supreme Court decision so important that, in the opinion of one writer, it will "utterly dwarf" the decision in the Northern Securities case. The New York *Times* calls it "one of the most striking events of recent American history." The opinion was handed down on February 1, but its importance seems to be just dawning on the newspapers. By this decision North Carolina is ordered to pay to South Dakota the principal and interest of ten old repudiated $1,000 state bonds, amounting in all to $27,000; but in effect the decision is taken by some to mean that Minnesota and the ten Southern States that repudiated bonds may have to pay some six or seven hundred million dollars due on their disavowed paper. At first blush, this might seem to be good news to the people who hold the paper, but the financial writers advise these persons to restrain their enthusiasm, in view of the facts in the present case. In this case the ten bonds were given to South Dakota by Samuel and Simon Schafer, two Wall Street brokers, after the South Dakota legislature had passed an act authorizing the State to accept and collect gifts. As private citizens the Schafer brothers could not sue North Carolina in the Supreme Court, but South Dakota, being a State, could. Hence the gift. The Schafer brothers, in their letter of presentation, described themselves as "persons who liberally give charity to the needy, the deserving, and the unfortunate," and expressed the hope that the State "should apply the proceeds of these bonds to the State University, or to some of its asylums or other charities." The State accepted the bonds, sued North Carolina for payment, and has now won its case. The court was careful to inquire searchingly whether the charitable Wall Street brokers were to receive any part of the award, and it was evidently only upon conviction that they were not that the court decided in favor of the plaintiff.

Justice Brewer, who wrote the decision, said that "probably the donor made the gift under a not unreasonable expectation that South Dakota would bring an action against North Carolina to enforce these bonds, and that such action might inure to his benefit as the owner of other like bonds," but did not let this obvious motive affect the decision. He quoted Justice Marshall as saying that "the motive with which a gift is made, whether good or bad, does not affect its validity, or the question of jurisdiction. . . . If the law concerned itself with the motives of parties, new complications would be introduced into suits which might seriously obscure their real merits." So the decision was given for the plaintiff. Four justices—White, Fuller, McKenna, and Day—dissented, on the ground that if the court allows an individual to transfer his claim against a State to another State for suit, "then the prohibition contained in the Constitution, against an individual suing a State, is a mere letter, without spirit and without force."

As to the effect of the decision, some think that it may create an active market for the great mass of repudiated state bonds, as there is nothing in the decision to indicate that it would have resulted differently if South Dakota had bought the bonds, instead of receiving them as a gift. These bonds are said to aggregate more than $300,000,000, with enough accumulated interest to more than double the amount. A table in the Boston *Transcript* lists the repudiating States and their disavowed securities as follows:

Alabama	$38,812,000
Arkansas	20,807,000
Florida	5,280,000
Georgia	13,580,000
Louisiana	32,115,000
Minnesota	5,960,000
Mississippi	22,600,000
North Carolina	48,350,000
South Carolina	19,500,000
Tennessee	29,850,000
Virginia	72,220,000
	$309,074,000

The interest, it is reckoned, amounts to as much more. On the ten bonds in the present case the unpaid interest amounted to 170 per cent.

Holders of these securities are warned by the New York *Evening Post* and other papers to restrain their jubilation until the bearings of the decision are made more clear. No State has exhibited any intention as yet to invest in this dubious paper, and if the bondholder has to imitate the charitable Schafer brothers and give his bonds to some State outright before they can be collected, the advantage to him is not apparent. Then, too, the North Carolina bonds in this case are secured by bonds of the North Carolina Railroad Company, which can be levied upon if North Carolina refuses to settle. Few other repudiated bonds are secured in this way. Senator Overman, of North Carolina, says in a newspaper interview:

"With the exception of $270,000 of the ante-bellum railroad bonds, there are no other obligations of the State, nor, so far as I know, of any other Southern State, which in any way correspond to these mortgage bonds.

"The decision of the court rests wholly on the lien features of the case. The object of the suit, it is said, was to pave the way to the enforced payment of the Confederate government bonds. I can not see how this decision makes any approach to that result."

Mark Sullivan, in the Boston *Transcript*, treats the bondholders' prospects thus:

"It is unsafe to reason directly from the present decision to a theory that all the repudiated state bonds can be collected in this way. The bonds are of many different issues by many different States; the terms and conditions of them vary. Undoubtedly many—probably a large majority—are analogous to the ones just sued upon, and these can be collected. But just as surely there may be some whose terms differ to such an extent as to make the present decision no precedent for them. Furthermore, there is a

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TYLER MCWHARTER,
The St. Paul *Dispatch*

ALBERT J. TAYLOR,
The Rocky Mountain News, Denver.

J. H. DONAHEY,
The Cleveland *Plain Dealer*.

DONALD F. STEWART,
The Brooklyn *Standard Union*.

REPRESENTATIVE CARTOONISTS.

broad difference between a bond which you can promptly turn into cash and a bond which you can only collect by giving it to a state university or asylum. Then, too, there is another uncertain element in the case: This decision may give a fillip to the consciences of the defaulting States, and this spur, together with the renewed prosperity in the Southern States, may induce them to repudiate repudiation and redeem their good names in the markets of the world. This possibility, indeed, has always been a factor in the market prices of the repudiated bonds—for example, it has always been felt, for some reason, that Georgia was not so conscienceless as her sister States, and that in good time she would redeem her bonds; and for this reason the repudiated bonds of the State have commanded four or five times the price of those of other States. Another element, which remains an unchanged factor in the value of these bonds, is that in any of the States a strong and courageous leader may arise who will, from motives either mercenary or moral, induce his State to pay its debts."

The Jacksonville *Times-Union* declares that "Florida's name should not stand in the list" of repudiating States, and says in explanation:

"The securities here quoted are those known as the Littlefield bonds, secured in the last days of the carpetbag régime by a legislative grant of credit to a railroad contrary to our Constitution, which gives no such power and never did give it. Florida refused to pay under a decision of her Supreme Court, which decided the legislature had no such authority and had pawned the credit of the State without warrant of law. This is not repudiation—Florida has paid all her debts and her credit in financial centers to-day is of the best, as the late report of her treasurer abundantly proves. To put her in the list of States that have repudiated their obligations, with or without excuse, is unjust and unfair. Florida has made no contracts she has not kept. Her legislature had no authority under her Constitution to extend her credit to the 'boomers' who made merchandise of her good name, and they knew it when they got the money on those bonds—those who gave the money should have investigated and protected themselves."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

RUSSIA need not insist so strenuously that "she has not begun to fight yet." The world has known that all along.—*The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

WILL the man who runs for President on the Democratic ticket this year be eligible to the Carnegie hero fund?—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat*.

MR. BRYAN has been quoted as saying that money stupefies the conscience. That also seems to be the opinion of the other Bennett heirs.—*The Chicago Tribune*.

IT is believed that General Bristow could command a fine line of Congressional indorsements if he should seek appointment to a foreign mission.—*The Washington Post*.

A BOOK publisher declares that no first-class fiction is being produced these days. Let him keep his eye on the resolutions of the political conventions.—*The Kansas City Journal*.

THE Japanese have won some important victories, but it will not do for them to get unduly puffed up. There is an imposing battery of ikons yet to be passed.—*The Indianapolis Journal*.

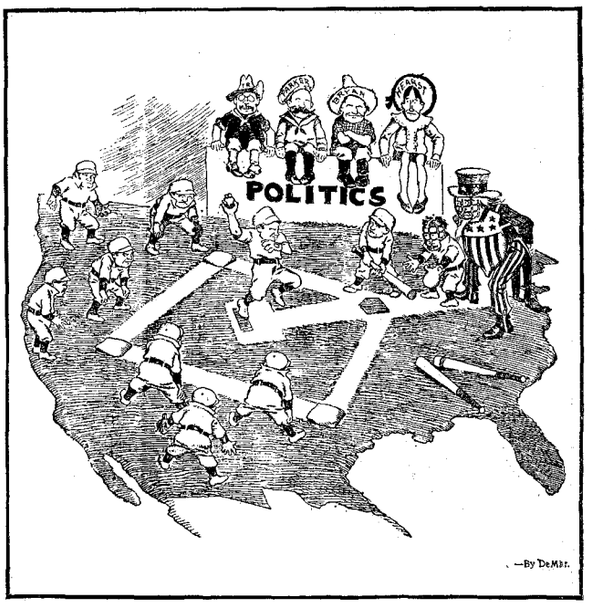
SCIENTISTS inform us that eventually all radium will disappear. They do not say where it will go, but it might pay to keep an eye on Morgan and Rockefeller.—*The Philadelphia North American*.

AT last it has been discovered why the Russians grow such long beards. They are afraid that if they shave they will mislay the razor, step on it, and fatally cut themselves in the feet.—*The Denver Republican*.

IT is said that the Russian peasants have a superstition that when Russia is ready to invade Japan the Japan Sea will dry up. Some Democrats have the same childish faith in regard to Mr. Bryan.—*The Indianapolis Journal*.

IF Russia's threat to shoot newspaper correspondents as spies for sending wireless news were extended to include those sending newsless news the world would cry out in horror at the fearful extent of the slaughter.—*The New York Press*.

THE Memphis *Commercial-Appeal* wants to know "what has become of Old Whiskers Peffer?" Mr. Peffer is practising law in Washington, and just now congratulating himself that he did nothing as a Senator from Kansas that will make it necessary for him to lose his whiskers or have a close hair cut.—*The Washington Post*.



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES.
—DeMar in the Philadelphia *Record*.

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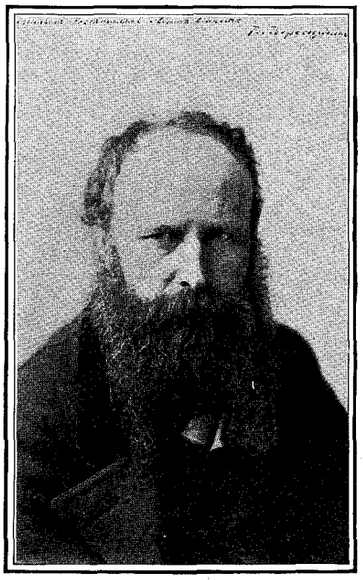
LETTERS AND ART.

VASSILI VERESTCHAGIN.

A SURVIVOR of the ill-fated *Petropav'osk* declares that on the sinking battle-ship was "an old man with a beautiful white beard, who had been good to our men. He had a book in his hand and seemed to be writing—perhaps sketching. He was Verestchagin, the painter." Possibly, as the New York *Times* suggests, the detail of the "sketch-book" is apocryphal; but the account is not without precedent, and Ruskin has told how Turner, being in a storm at sea, where nobody on board expected to survive, had himself lashed to the mast and there made memoranda which he afterward used in a painting. Whatever the exact details of his taking off, the death of Verestchagin on board a battle-ship was most appropriate. "He died as he lived," says the Detroit *Free Press*, "—on the firing line." The Washington *Times* adds:

"Verestchagin was best known as a painter of battle scenes, in which line he was probably the greatest artist of his time. He was accustomed to go in person wherever war was going on, that he might gain those impressions of the scenes of warfare which can only be had by actual presence on the battle-field. He was severely wounded at the siege of Plevna. Two years ago he spent some time in Cuba making studies for his picture of the battle of San Juan, and he also made many studies in the Philippines while guerrilla warfare was going on there. It surprised no one, therefore, to hear of his departure for the East immediately after the opening of hostilities between Russia and Japan, and the records which his genius might have secured of scenes in this momentous conflict would have been of immense value to the historian."



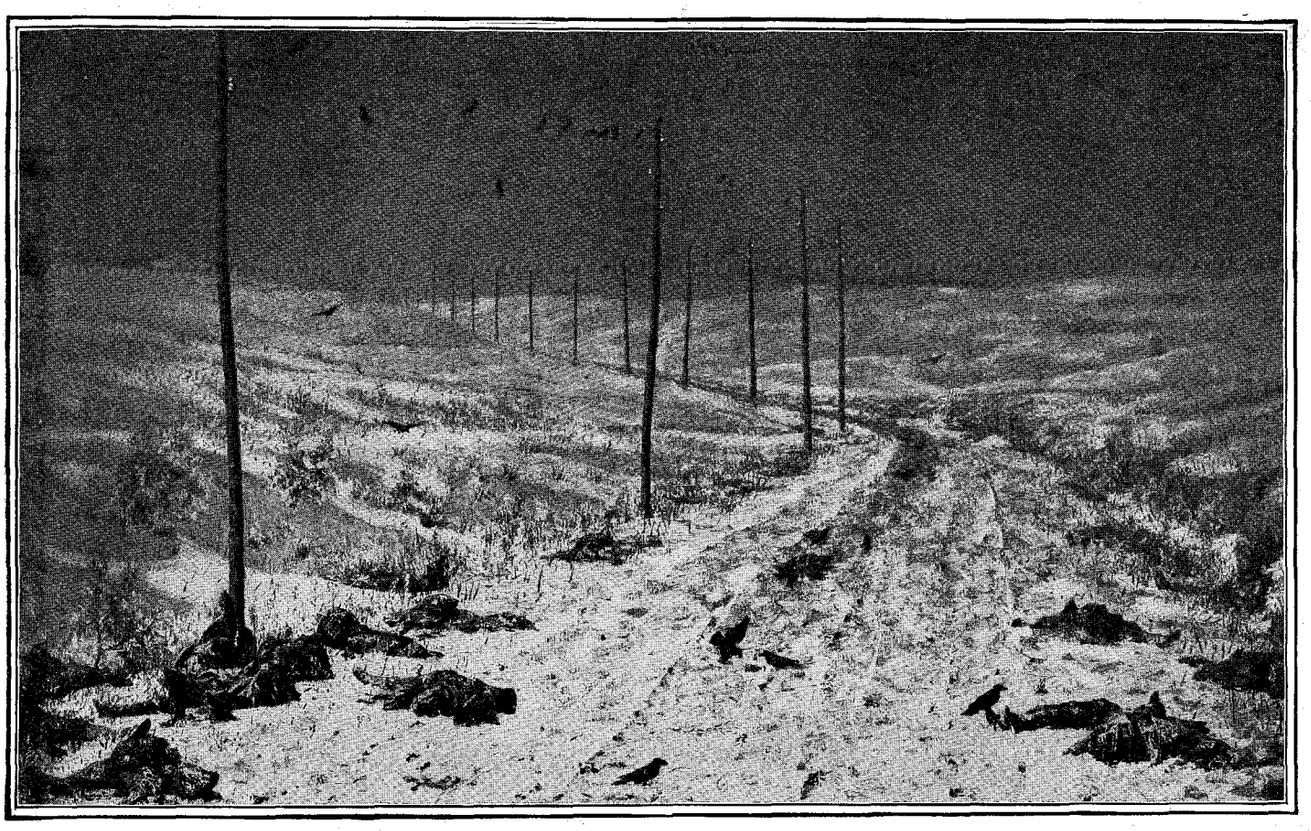
VASSILI VERESTCHAGIN.
He is said to have considered this his best portrait.

The Boston *Transcript* points out that Russia has lost "her most famous painter" in Verestchagin, and finds it a curious circumstance that Verestchagin and Tolstoy, Russians both, should have done more than any other two men of our day to reveal "the foolishness and infinite wickedness of war." The same paper says further:

"Verestchagin has been pleased to call himself a realist. He was that no doubt, but he was something more. We would not be going beyond the line of justifiable criticism if we called him a great tragic poet. His pictures of the Russo-Turkish war filled the world with emotions of horror and pity. Who that saw them can forget his ghastly, heart-rending paintings of the field hospital before Plevna, or the frozen sentinel in the snow-shrouded Shipka Pass? He took the isolated incident and erected it into the typical and representative fact of history. He felt, and made the world of modern men and women feel with him, the profound pathetic significance of the individual's peril and pain in its relation to the so-called interests of government. To do this was to bring home a great ethical lesson, which can be summed up in the simple demonstration that the loss and sufferings of the nameless thousands of victims, heroes as well as martyrs of the military ideal, have no logical bearing upon the ambitions of rulers or the 'national selfconsciousness' which is embodied in land-grabbing and the mad egotism of conquest."

The Springfield *Republican* gives the following account of Verestchagin's life and work:

Verestchagin was born in the province of Novgorod, October



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"THE ROUTE TO PLEVNA."
(By Verestchagin.)

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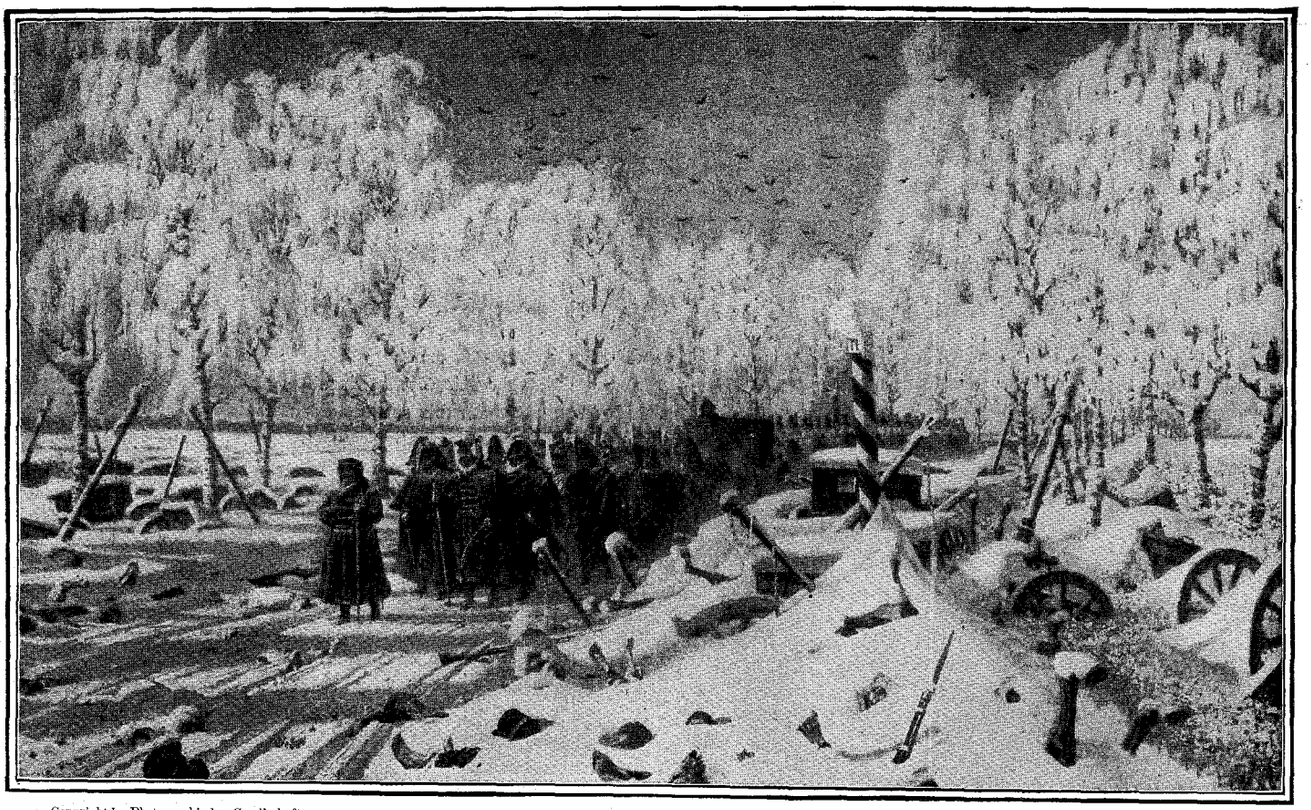

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"THE RETREAT FROM MOSCOW."

(By Verestchagin.)

25, 1842. He accompanied the Russian armies through Kaufmann's campaign, in which the Turkomans were subdued, and in the Balkan war of 1877–78. Later, he traveled extensively through Asia, painting everything assiduously, from the Taj Mahal to the magnificent procession at the entrance of the then Prince of Wales to Delhi. In the Russo-Turkish war he was a guest of the late Czar in camp, and furnished with every facility for exercising his art. But he went afoot often, and there was no phase of that conflict that escaped his notice. His was clear-thinking as well as clear-seeing, and he accomplished his purpose so well that when Alexander III. saw his great gallery of pictures at St. Petersburg he exclaimed, "This man is a revolutionary!"—so alarming to despotism is the truth.

These paintings of the Russo-Turkish war, and others of India, Palestine, and Russia, were shown by Verestchagin in many European cities, and some American, and were finally sold at auction in New York City, by which means a great many of them remain in America. The critics were very severe on Verestchagin. In their smart manner they rated him for painting thinly, and were very savage because he did not choose to employ the small technic which they consider essential. But, as a matter of fact, he could do anything that was necessary to produce the effect desired. The "Indian Mosque" in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts is but one of a score of wonderful renderings of great architecture, in which the marble was done as well as ever Alma Tadema could do it, and the problems of perspective, of shadow, of blazing sun, were unsurpassable. His small pictures of the Taj were gems of perfect beauty. And for profound impressiveness nothing could exceed the extensive canvas called "The Forgotten Soldier"—a vast wilderness of mountains in clouds, and over the clouds a hovering vulture. It left to the imagination all that the title signified. Verestchagin afterward painted a series of twenty large paintings representing scenes in Napoleon's invasion of Russia. Among his most remarkable series of paintings were three which represented the English execution of Sepoys after the mutiny of 1857, by blowing them from the mouths of guns; a "Crucifixion in Judea," which was much criticized as representing "The Crucifixion," and in which the same cruel and bloody realism was shown as in his war pictures; and "Hanging in Russia," which was held to mean the execution of a Nihilist conspirator. His latest work was a fanciful picture of the fight at San Juan Hill in the Spanish war, with Colonel Roosevelt as the hero.

The artist was a broad-shouldered, Tatar-like figure, and, with long full beard, resembled Tolstoy as he was twenty years ago. He was a charming talker, had a genius for society, and his tea service, in a little room off the American art-galleries in New York, was a delightful feature of his exhibition in these galleries. He could write as well as he could paint, and the booklet published to serve in a measure as a guide to his purpose and work, is a literary as well as an artistic souvenir.

The two paintings reproduced herewith, representing the retreat of the Napoleonic army from Moscow, and the corpse-strewn "route to Plevna," belong to Verestchagin's earlier period, and are reckoned among his masterpieces.

A DRAMA OF RUSSIAN "PROGRESS."

DECAYING nobility, advancing and aggressive "plutocracy," and aspiring, idealistic youth are depicted in a drama of modern Russian life, just produced with success at Moscow. It is the work of Tolstoy's "literary son," Anton Chekhoff, the eminent novelist and playwright, whose chief characteristic is thoughtful, gentle pessimism. A great deal is being said regarding the political and economic weakness of Russia, caused by the absence of a strong middle-class, and Chekhoff aims to show the development of such a class and the changes attendant upon the transformation. Yet the drama is not of the tendency-play order. It is rather a study of three generations, of character, and of social conditions.

The plot of the play, which is called "The Cherry-Tree Garden," is set forth as follows in the *Novoye Vremya*, whose critic bestows high praise upon its literary and artistic qualities:

An elderly lady of rank, Mme. Ranevsky, who has resided in Paris for a number of years, returns to her estate in the heart of Russia, accompanied by her young daughter, Ania. She is glad to find herself again amid the delightful surroundings of her early

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married life, and is joyfully received by her brother, Gaieff, her stepdaughter, Varia, who has taken care of the family home, and by a student, Trofimow, who had been the instructor of her deceased son. The reunion is most touching, and Mme. Ranevsky is profoundly affected, almost hysterical under the influence of her impressions and memories. The house, the rooms, the furniture —everything is examined with a keen pleasure not unmixed with pain and sadness. The garden, in particular, with its foliage, buds, walks, tender associations, is contemplated with deep emotion. Ah, how much sweeter is country life in Russia than the artificiality and hollowness of gay and brilliant Paris! Madame Ranevsky vows she will never leave her estate again.

Visitors are announced. They have come to greet and welcome the returned proprietress. Among them is a certain Lopakhin, a *bourgeois* of the "new" type. He is gentlemanly and intelligent, with the instincts of an "exploiter," but not wholly bereft of a feeling of respect and sympathy for the nobility and the aristocracy. He treats Madame Ranevsky with deference and consideration, but his view of life is entirely different. It soon develops that the estate is heavily burdened and mortgaged, and that Madame Ranevsky is in danger of losing it. She has lived in the French capital beyond her means and has been victimized by a worthless spendthrift to whom she is strongly attached.

Can the estate be saved? Gaieff, a man without will or ability, has nothing to suggest; but Lopakhin points out a remedy. Why not put the garden to commercial use—cut the trees down and place the extensive area under profitable management? Many attractive country-houses could be built there and let to tenants and crops might be raised. Madame Ranevsky and her brother are shocked at this middle-class idea. To sacrifice the garden is to break with the past, to yield to low commercialism. The plan is rejected with scorn.

Some time elapses, and as the mortgages can not be redeemed, the estate must be sold. It is sold at auction, and Madame Ranevsky, resigned to her misfortune, is eager to know into whose possession her land has fallen. Lopakhin appears, and he finds the bankrupt family in the midst of ill-timed festivities. Madame Ranevsky is giving a ball to her neighbors and friends. He is surrounded, questioned, but he is confused and excited.

Finally he confesses that he has acquired the estate. He, the *bourgeois*, has supplanted the arisocratic family. The news produces a most unpleasant impression, and a painful silence ensues. Then Madame Ranevsky succumbs to her grief and sobs bitterly. Varia, the stepdaughter, throws her bunch of keys at the feet of the new proprietor. Tho she belongs to his class and has even been regarded as his probable choice for a wife, she revolts against the situation.

Lopakhin himself is touched. He is half ashamed of his act, inevitable as the result is. He is not thoroughly "emancipated," and the old order has not lost its hold upon his affections. What is to become of the family?

In the last act Madame Ranevsky is making her final preparations to leave her old home. She is going back to Paris on money furnished by a grandmother. Gaieff is obliged to accept a position in a bank, where he is not expected to stay long, being incapable of application or of any useful service. Varia has anticipated a proposal from Lopakhin, but at the last moment he disappoints her. Ania, however, the young daughter, goes away with the student, Trofimow—to lead "a new life." She is a mere child, but the eloquent and vague talk of the student about independence, labor, devotion to progressive "causes," and the free life opens a new prospect before her. She is ready to follow him, to do something for herself "and for others."

One by one the members of the family say "Farewell!" to the beloved house, and as they depart the work of destruction begins in the garden. The trees are being cut down at the order of Lopakhin. In the hurried departure no one thinks of the old and feeble servant, the loyal valet who has taken care of them. His very existence is forgotten. He, however, does not even notice this neglect. He whispers to himself that the master, Gaieff, has not put on his warm overcoat and may contract a cold.

The critics agree that Chekhoff has produced a realistic and poignant drama of modern Russia, which is undergoing the transformation pictured in the play. Chekhoff has treated the subject of the passing of the land-holding nobility in a number of novelettes and comedies, but in none of them has he hailed the advent of the middle-class. An atmosphere of melancholy and pessimism envelops them all, and he sees little promise in the future.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

PUBLISHERS' VIEWS OF THE ALLEGED "OVERPRODUCTION" OF FICTION.

THERE is a great deal of discussion in literary circles nowadays in regard to our so-called "literary deluge," and it is generally assumed that the problem of excessive book-production, especially in the field of fiction, is a really vital and important one. It would seem, however, that there is a disposition in some quarters to deny that any such problem exists. Miss Carolyn Shipman, a writer in *The Critic* (March), who presents a budget of publishers' views on this subject, declares that a representative of one of the most conservative publishing houses in New York recently exclaimed: "Overproduction of fiction! We know of no such thing. There was never a time when manuscripts were read as carefully as now, for fear a second 'David Harum'—the classical example [with a little laugh]—will slip through some reader's fingers. The trouble is, we can't get as much fiction as we want —that is, good fiction—and we are constantly on the lookout for new writers." Another publisher, when asked to express an opinion on the question, replied:

"From our point of view there is no '*over*production' in the publishing market at present. There is, of course, a large production of books, and perhaps an increase in the production, but we do not necessarily call it an overproduction. This production is due entirely to the natural causes of supply and demand. The reading public demands new books, and many of them. Publishers supply the demand. We should not say that there is any desire on the part of publishers in general to check the production of books."

A third publisher also takes the view that there is no overproduction of which he knows. "The production," he says, "keeps step with the ever-increasing reading public, and publishers have no desire to see it checked." A Philadelphia book firm, on the other hand, thinks that too many novels *are* produced, and gives three causes: The "extraordinary popular success of a few novels, with resultant large financial returns to their authors; the wholesale advertising of fiction, which has placed the sale of most novels largely upon a speculative basis; and the lessening of the cost of books to the reader, with consequent stimulation of the reading habit." The same firm goes on to say that the only desire on the part of publishers to check the present overproduction is "such as is animated by the sound judgment that the sale of novels on a stimulative basis is unhealthy and bound to produce a reaction, and by a recognition of the fact that the publisher as well as the author owes something to the elevation of literature. The effect on the market is unsteadying and, therefore, unfavorable in the end to the best interests of the trade."

A Western publisher admits the fact of overproduction and gives a reason for its cause:

"It is our belief that the present overproduction of fiction is due to the fact that the cost of issuing a book is so small compared to the possible profits in case it is successful, and to the fact that it is a matter of chance whether or not it will succeed. In other words, the publisher issues ten novels in the hope that one will succeed, and not only pay for the loss on the other nine, but yield him a profit besides.

"Naturally publishers are desirous of doing away with the evil of overproduction, but we do not think it can be materially checked. The effects of overproduction are felt more by the bookseller than by any one else, and his only protection is to order books which are having a vogue rather than small quantities of each book issued."

Miss Carolyn Shipman, in commenting on the views presented, has this to say:

"The whole situation has been succinctly expressed in one

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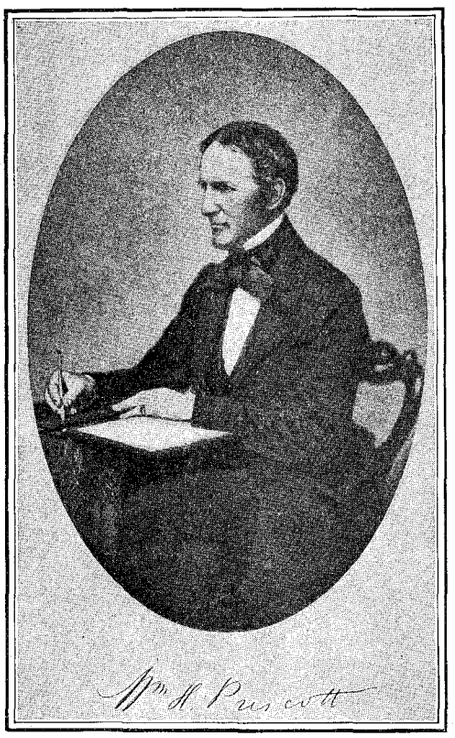
sentence by the head of a prominent publishing-house in New York: 'The evil lies less in the *over*production of fiction than in the *under*production of good fiction.'

"The Meredithes and Hardys and Bret Hartes and Henry Jameses of literature are either not writing, or are producing pot-boilers or filling 'orders,' with the quality of which editors can not well cavil, when the contract calls for a novel over the signature of a particularly well-known author. And when editors assure us that 'our old authors are producing just as good work as ever,' if we have any memory of better days, we are forced to believe either that they 'lie in their throats' for strictly business purposes, or that their critical senses have become dulled by too much mediocrity.

"If the reviewer is able in even the slightest degree to check the sale of worthless fiction, long may he flourish!"

PRESCOTT'S BATTLE WITH BLINDNESS.

THE biography of William H. Prescott, the famous historian, contributed by Rollo Ogden to the "American Men of Letters" series, is really a study of personality rather than a criticism of Prescott's work or an attempt to estimate his place among the historians of the nineteenth century. Mr. Ogden justifies the appearance of the new Life (supplementing the one already written by George Ticknor) by declaring that his predecessor, at the time that he entered upon his task, was "already an old man," austere in his attitude toward society and literature, and incapable of bringing out vividly the "playful and engagingly human aspects" of Prescott's character. In spite of this remark, however, Mr. Ogden's own view of his subject is serious enough; and his record of the historian's struggle with blindness and other bodily ills reveals qualities decidedly heroic. The following account is given of the cause of Prescott's partial blindness:



The author of "The Conquest of Mexico," "The Conquest of Peru," "Ferdinand and Isabella," etc., etc.

"It was a student prank that destroyed his left eye. Leaving the table at commons one day in his junior year Prescott turned sharply to see what particular piece of skylarking the noise behind him indicated, and was caught full in the open eye by a crust of bread thrown after him with none but rollicking intent. The blow was a fearful one in its nervous effects, striking Prescott down as by a rifle bullet. No external mark, then or later, was left on the eye, but it was made instantly and incurably sightless. The oculists of the day called it a paralysis of the retina. The patient soon recovered tone and spirits, and went to enter into the kingdom of the learned with one eye, and did it gaily and triumphantly, as has been seen. Immediately after graduation he began reading law in his father's office, and looked forward confidently to a career at the bar. But early in 1815 the shadow deepened upon him. He was seized with an obscure inflammation in the right eye. Its diagnosis long baffled the physicians, who only later determined it to be a case of acute rheumatism. For months he was entirely blind, and never again was he able to use the eye except with extreme caution, and for but short periods at a time. Intervals of complete blindness fell upon him with the frequent recurrence of his disease—which often attacked him painfully in other parts of the body also—and the fear of losing even the feeble and precarious sight remaining to him never left him as long as he lived."

Under the effect of such a calamity, a literary life involving days and years of patient research among old manuscripts and books in foreign languages would be the last, one would think, that a man so handicapped would elect to follow. How Prescott met the problem is stated in the paragraph here quoted:

"Oculists assured him that his eye would be adequate to all the ordinary purposes of life if he would give up his literary labors. But Prescott quietly refused to pay the price. Holding himself to the strictest regimen, using every precaution that his own experience or the skill of physicians might suggest, he yet preferred the joys of his intellectual pursuits to the certainty of eyesight. Again and again we find him in his journals calmly contemplating the possibility of absolute blindness. Even then there was no regret or slackened resolution; only a weighing of the possibility of his being able to press on with his work when wholly dependent upon the eyes of others. So long as hearing remained to him he would not lose heart. 'The obstacles,' he wrote in his journal for October 4, 1830, 'I do not believe to be insuperable, unless I become deaf as well as blind. . . . I can always (by hearing even) prepare and write twenty-five printed pages in a month.' This was constantly a last resort in his mind; and when, in his later years, his hearing did grow somewhat dull, his fear that he might be left both blind and deaf was sometimes haunting."

The duel that was waged between the man's determination to pursue his appointed career and the demand of heavy penalties for any overstraining of his eyesight and frail physique resulted, so Mr. Ogden points out, in a literary product of unique character and the process by which the warring forces were brought into adjustment is described as follows:

"It was his bodily crippling that gave Prescott an introspective habit. He watched himself like an experimenter. Every symptom he noted down. His diet he scrupulously recorded. His partition of the day—his hours of sleep; the time given to reading; the amount of exercise and recreation, with the effects of each; social amusements and the tax paid to friendship—all was written out and studied and commented upon for three rigorous years. It was not done selfishly, least of all morbidly. Prescott had a problem to solve. How could he do the work of a man without a man's eyesight? What regimen would maintain his necessarily limited activity at its highest and most continuous flow? What husbanding of the hours would make up for the handicap under which he must always labor? It was to answer those questions satisfactorily to himself that Prescott undertook his prolonged self-scrutiny and self-testing. He did it almost with scientific objectivity. He was cool and unbiased, as if writing of another. Not one hint of a diseased consciousness appears in the whole record. In this respect, I think, the literature of diaries may be searched in vain for a parallel. To put one's nature, physical and mental, under the microscope, daily, yet to betray, not simply no morbid feeling, but almost no sense of self at all; to be calm, even jocose, while recording ill-health and noting limitations; to preserve a sunny temper while wrestling with the problem how to make life bear fruit in darkness; and to do all this in a series of records meant only for his own eye and for his own guidance—such was the high and unique achievement of Prescott."

NOTES.

EMIL PAUR has been elected conductor of the Pittsburg orchestra, succeeding Victor Herbert in that position.

HENRY AUSTIN CLAPP, the leading dramatic critic of New England, died at his home in Boston recently. He was graduated at Harvard in 1860, and in 1887 was appointed clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court in Boston. For thirty years he was the dramatic critic for the Boston *Advertiser*, and for the last two years held a similar position on the Boston *Herald*. Two years ago he published his "Reminiscences of a Dramatic Critic," which covered practically all the great achievements of the American stage.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

HOW DO WE LEARN?

THIS is the question asked by Dr. L. Menard in an article contributed to *Cosmos* (March 19). A prime factor, he tells us, is the concentration of the mind on the thing to be remembered. Without due attention there can be no memorization at all. A curious result of experiments along this line is the apparent inability of exercise to increase the power of memory. This does not accord with popular belief, but Dr. Menard assures us that scholars at the end of a four years' course, during which they have constantly memorized, have scarcely more powers in this direction than at the outset. Says the writer:

"To remember a thing, it must be learned. This is a truism; but how do we learn? The daily sight of the same objects, the hearing of the same words, the repetition of the same acts, stock our various memories with a collection of knowledge acquired apparently without effort. Thus a child learns his native tongue or even a foreign language; thus a peasant, who has never studied natural history, knows the names of the principal plants of his country. He would be unable to understand a map, yet he threads easily the narrow trails of the neighboring region. Impressions fix themselves on his memory by the fact that they are often renewed and that their importance and utility cause strict attention to be given to them.

"Patient experimenters have attempted to determine the relative importance of these various factors in the acquisition of new knowledge. You may meet some one every day, in the street or at the theater, without recognizing him, unless your attention has been attracted by some peculiarity. If, on the contrary, he has been presented to you by a third person, or if some circumstance leads you to accost him, his face may so strike you that a single meeting may be sufficient for future recognition.

"One of my friends, a painter, took into his service a young nurse who, having entered his house at 11 A.M., left during the morning, on some pretext or other, with all the portable articles she could lay hands on. He had scarcely seen her, yet he made, from memory, so good a sketch of her that it enabled the police to find her. Such examples of visual memory are not very rare.

"A publisher ordered from Gustave Doré a picture, sending him a photograph of some Alpine scenery to be copied. The artist went away without his model, and the publisher was much provoked; but he was astonished when Doré appeared next day with the desired picture, having made it from memory. A few seconds' examination of the photograph had sufficed to impress on his memory the slightest details and to enable him to reproduce them with not a rock or a tree lacking.

"Every one knows the story of Mozart's writing out from memory the whole 'Miserere' after hearing it twice at the Sistine chapel. These are exceptional instances of visual or auditive memory. The conscious and voluntary concentration of attention in Mozart's case and the probably subconscious concentration of the two painters were sufficient to fix in their memories what would ordinarily have caused only a fugitive impression.

"The memory may acquire a certain amount of development by practise, but it does not seem that lessons learned in school aid this very much.

"In schools the difference between the power of memory in the youngest pupils and the oldest is almost insignificant. This fact has been brought out by the work of Messrs. Bourdon, Binet, and Henri.

"M. Bourdon examined, one by one, 100 pupils belonging to different classes of the same establishment. He reached the conclusion that the memory remains almost stationary from 8 to 20 years of age! It is somewhat more extensive in the older children, progressing slightly from 8 to 14 years, and then, up to 20 years, the difference is insensible.

"Binet and Henri caused 380 children, from 8 to 13 years old, to learn series of words and phrases. They reached this conclusion regarding memory for words:

"Children of the first class remember, on an average, out of 7 words, 4.9; children of the second class, 4.8; children of the third class, 4.9; children of the fourth class, 4.6.

"So, despite the excellent instruction received for four years, the 13-year-old children remembered on an average only a slight fraction of a word ($\frac{3}{10}$) more than those of 8 years!

"The difference is much greater among adults. Messrs. Binet and Henri . . . conclude that when we compare the memory of children with that of adults the difference is no longer a fraction of a word, but a whole word. . . . . .

"After the age of 20 there is no more recitation of texts or lessons from memory, nor any systematic training to strengthen the retentive faculty, and yet the memory gains much more than during twelve years of study and systematic instruction.

"M. Van Bierolict, from whom the above is quoted, thinks that by other methods we should develop the memory better.

"This is possible, but one essential thing should be noted. Children at school exercise their memories by learning texts, rules, or theorems; but it is inexact to say that on leaving school there is no more such exercise. The Paris coachman who is obliged to keep in his mind the names of streets, the shop-clerk who knows the prices of a large number of different objects, exercise their memories as much as the scholar who recites geographical names or the multiplication-table. At all ages we use the memory and are obliged to enrich it with new facts; but when it is not a question of an imposed task, we retain only what it is our interest to retain—what is useful to us and engages our attention.

"A curious experiment enables us to appreciate the rôle of attention in memorization by measuring the effect produced by different kinds of distractions. This has been done in various ways. For instance, persons have been told to learn series of syllables while singing, and the influence of this distraction has been measured. The singing is of course simple; the same note is constantly sung to the vowel *a* or *i*. By counting the number of words memorized without and with the singing, respectively, the distracting influence has been determined.

"This influence is not marked in visuals, who have been accustomed to remember by the aid of the eye and to neglect auditive impressions. It is otherwise in the case of 'motors,' who are prevented by this artifice from silent articulation, and of auditives, who are prevented by the attention that they give to the singing from bestowing enough on the mental audition of the lesson."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

WHAT IS A DESERT?

THAT the current conceptions of deserts are neither adequate nor correct is asserted by a writer in *The National Geographical Magazine*. He says:

"A work of wide circulation and use defines a desert as 'A region that is wholly or approximately without vegetation. Such regions are rainless, usually sandy, and commonly not habitable.'

"The insufficiency of the above description rests upon faulty observations and upon the failure to recognize the fact that the habitability of a region is no criterion of its arid character. The development of modern methods of transportation has made possible the maintenance of dwellings and towns with a considerable population at one or even two hundred miles from the nearest supply of water. Even such facilities are not necessary to the sustenance of a population in deserts of the most extreme type, as illustrated by the Sahara, which has a population of two and a half million people. So far as the vegetation is concerned, the actual number of individuals is much less than on a similar area in a moist climate. This, in fact, is one of the chief characteristics of a desert, but it would not be safe to estimate the total number of species much below the average number. Lastly, be it remembered that local topography has but little influence on the desert character of a region. Sandy flats, plains, valleys, and rocky hills reaching to such altitudes as to become mountains are included in some desert tracts. It follows as a natural consequence of the sparse vegetation as one factor that the surface layers of the substratum, being usually dry in arid regions, are readily shifted and worn by winds."

What, then, is a desert? The following is the writer's definition with his accompanying exposition:

"The term desert may be applied to areas of the earth's surface which support a sparse vegetation of a more or less specialized character, owing to inadequate rainfall or to the unsuitable composition or lack of soil. Of these conditions, scanty water-supply

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may be regarded as of the greatest importance, and it is to this factor that most deserts owe their existence. Desert conditions arise in any region in which the rainfall is markedly less than the amount of water that evaporates from the surface of this liquid in the open air. As the amount of evaporation naturally increases from the polar regions toward the tropics and is affected by winds and elevation, it follows that no arbitrary amount of rainfall may be designated as an invariable cause or accompaniment of arid or desert conditions. Thus in certain portions of the tropics a rainfall of less than seventy inches results in aridity, while some of the most fertile agricultural districts in the north and south temperate zones receive scarcely one-third this amount.

"Regions in which precipitation is less than evaporation are characterized by a lack of running streams or of a permanent run-off, altho in some instances these districts may be traversed by large rivers which have their sources in distant mountain ranges, as in the case of the Nile in Africa and of the Colorado River in America. The rainfall in a desert may be so heavy at certain seasons as to produce torrents of great volume, which, rushing downward over the slopes and mountainsides, wear distinct streamways extending out into the plains below, in some instances for miles; but the flow soon ceases after the rains have passed, and the stream-beds become dusty channels until the next rainy season. Striking examples of such streamways are to be seen in the great Sonoran desert in northwestern Mexico. It is evident that districts in which the average rainfall is not much greater than the evaporation are in a very critical condition, since in seasons of minimum precipitation the amount of water received may be less than that lost, and drought may result, often with direful effects on agricultural operations and economic conditions in general.

"The seasonal distribution of the rainfall is a matter of importance in regions where evaporation is nearly as great as precipitation. If the rainfall occurs within a brief period, the remainder of the year must be extremely dry, and the region will show distinct desert conditions, with a tendency on the part of the native plants to develop marked storage capacity for water. The distribution of the scanty rainfall throughout the year in any region will favor the development of slowly growing xerophytic forms.

"Arid deserts occur in all of the great land divisions and reach an enormous extent in Africa, Asia, and Australia. The most pronounced desert conditions of South America are found on the western slopes and benches of the Andes. One locality, that of Copiapo, has an average precipitation of 0.4 inch per year, and, so far as known, is the driest spot on the earth's surface. The deserts of North America are confined to the Cordilleran region and occupy plateaus and plains east and west of the main ranges to an extent of more than a million square miles."

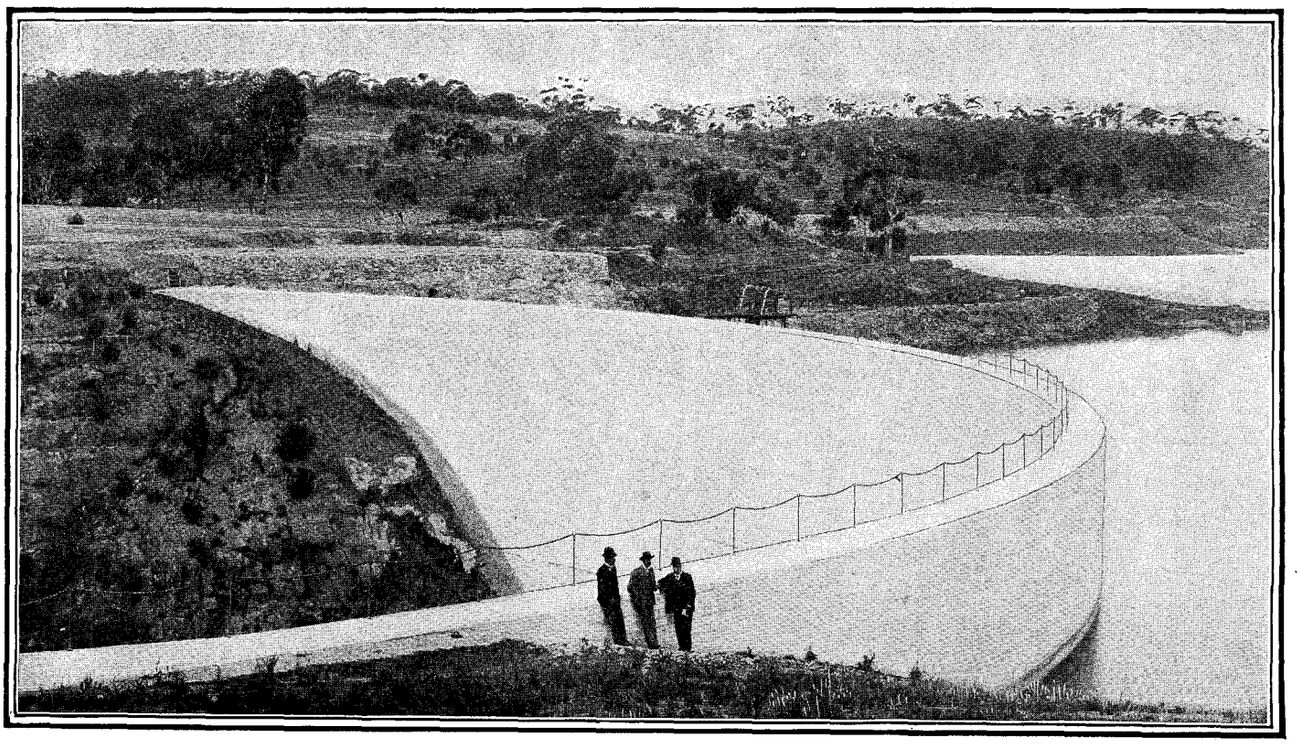
ARCH-SHAPED DAMS.

DAMS shaped like an arch, with the convex side up-stream, are coming into greater use, we are told by *Engineering News*. About fifteen years ago there was a notable controversy between engineers on this question, some authorities insisting that a dam ought to be built like a retaining wall, and that if it were built on a curve the combination of arch action and retaining-wall action would be apt to set up unknown and dangerous stresses within the masonry. Says the paper above mentioned:

"It is probably correct to say that the arched dam is much more favorably regarded in the engineering profession to-day than it was a dozen years ago. This is due not alone to the success which has been attained in the construction of arched dams of bold design, but to the increasing use of concrete instead of masonry in dam construction. In dams built of ashlar masonry the engineer had much reason for preferring a gravity dam, in which the stresses would be simply those of compression acting at right angles to the beds of the several courses. In a monolithic concrete construction, however, the material can resist compression equally well in any direction, and a concrete wall acting both as an arch and as a gravity dam is probably better able to resist the combined stresses than it would be if it were acted upon by either one alone. By combining steel tensile members with the concrete to tie the structure together and resist temperature stresses tending to cause cracks, a masonry structure is obtained, better able to resist diverse stresses and temperature effects, it may well be believed, than the best of the cut-stone masonry of earlier days.

"It is worth noting here, however, that the strength of a concrete structure depends entirely on the quality of the concrete, and an engineer in charge of an important structure is justified in taking extraordinary pains to secure uniformity and reliability in the concrete."

The arched construction here described is notably employed in the remarkable structure at Barossa, South Australia, completed in February, 1903, which, says the writer, "for boldness of design



ARCHED CONCRETE DAM AT BAROSSA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Courtesy of *The Engineering News* (New York).

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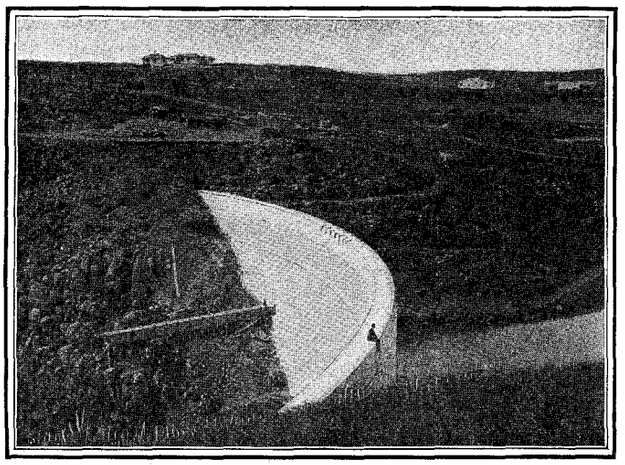
deserves to rank with the most famous dams of the world." This concrete arch, whose top is 94 feet above the ground line, is only 4 feet 6 inches wide at the top. The greatest thickness of concrete above the line of foundation is 34 feet at the ground line. The arch has a radius of 200 feet, and the total length of the arch of the circle formed by the top is 472 feet. The writer concludes:

"One of the stock objections raised by the opponents of concrete is the effect of temperature stresses in producing cracks.



CONCRETE DAM AT OTAY, CALIFORNIA.

Courtesy of *The Engineering News* (New York).

We would call particular attention to the fact that this great concrete dam, nearly 100 feet in height and almost 500 feet in length, is located in a climate where the temperature ranges from 30° to 168° F. The fact that this thin wall of concrete withstands these extremes without cracking furnishes remarkable testimony in favor of curved dams as compared with straight, and in favor of steel reinforcement for concrete exposed to temperature stresses."

Manual Work in Schools.—Manual training as a feature of elementary school work is sneered at by *The Electrical World and Engineer*, which calls it an "egregious fad in recent education." Dr. R. M. Walmsley, an Englishman who has spent three months here in the study of our engineering schools, is quoted as saying: "It is a matter for serious consideration whether the excessive amount of time given to manual work in the manual training-schools has not been dearly purchased at the expense of starving the time which should have been given to mental training." On this the paper quoted above remarks:

"We wish that some of our strenuous and solemn-visaged educators who spell themselves in large capitals and have so little sense of humor as to take themselves seriously, would cut out these two quotations and paste both into their hats. As things are at present, the higher technical institutions are busy for no inconsiderable part of the course in stopping the gaps left by kindergarten foolishness of various sorts in the primary and secondary schools. They admit students at eighteen or nineteen years of age and then spend the better part of two years in teaching them the elementary English, mathematics and modern languages that have been neglected in the secondary schools, to make room for nail-driving, music, painting, and emasculated physiology. It is vast credit to the technical schools that in a four years' course they can turn off the material they do in spite of inefficient preparation. Our English friends, in trying to build up a system of technical education, will at least have less foolishness to contend with at the start. The thing most needed over there, however, is the sympathetic assistance of the great universities. So long as they hold aloof from directly encouraging technical students, the tremendous weight of their centuries of social influence will stand against improvement."

TURBINE ENGINES FOR OCEAN LINERS.

THE announcement that the Cunard Steamship Company, guided by the advice of an expert commission, have decided to install turbine-engines on the two large passenger-steamers which they are about to build with the assistance of the British Government, has excited much interest. At the time of the invention of the turbine engine it was widely predicted that it would one day supersede the older forms of steam-motor. Yet for many years it has been generally thought that its use would probably be limited to small vessels. Says *The Scientific American*, commenting on the news:

"The announcement is a most momentous one, and by many engineers and steamship men it is considered that the company has shown great daring in applying the turbine to engines which will probably indicate, when pushed to their maximum capacity, about 75,000 horse-power. It is argued that the success of the turbine on small river and cross-channel steamers of not over 1,500 to 2,000 tons displacement does not guarantee its success when applied to vessels of such an unprecedented size as these new Cunarders. *The Scientific American* has never shared any of these doubts. Indeed, we have always urged that there were no complications, no novel conditions, to limit the usefulness of the turbine if it should be installed in the engine-room of a large modern steamship; that, on the contrary, the duty required of the engines of fast Atlantic liners is of the very kind in which the steam-turbine has shown to best advantage—namely, when it is running continuously, at high speed, and under full load.

"The committee which was appointed last September was probably one of the strongest and most representative that could have been gathered together. . . . When the committee was formed, there was only a small amount of information available as to the relative economy of turbine and reciprocating-engines when they were doing similar work and developing the same amount of power. The work of the committee was directed to making careful comparative tests under such conditions. One of these was carried on at Newcastle-on-Tyne, where reciprocating and turbine engines were run at various proportions of their power and also at full speed, the output of electricity being recorded in each case and the condensed steam from the engines being accurately measured. In addition to these tests ashore, others were carried out on the sister passenger-steamships *Arundel* and *Brighton*, which are identical in everything but motive-power, the *Brighton* being driven by turbine engines and the *Arundel* by reciprocating engines. The two vessels were run side by side from New Haven to Dieppe and back, all possibilities of error due to variations of weather and tide being thus eliminated. Subsequently the *Brighton* made several trials in the Solent, running at different rates of speed."

The new ships are to be 800 feet long and 85 feet beam, with a minimum draft of between 33 and 34 feet, on which dimensions they will have a displacement of about 40,000 tons. The *Kaiser Wilhelm II.*, now the largest of the high-speed transatlantic liners, has a length of 706 feet, a beam of 72 feet, and a draft of 29 feet, the draft being limited by the depth of the water in the German ports. The contract will probably require that the new Cunarders develop a speed of 25 knots on trial and a sustained sea speed of 24½ knots an hour. The 75,000 horse-power will be developed upon four shafts. On the outer pair will be the high-pressure turbines. On the inner pair the low-pressure, and also the go-astern turbines. The coal consumption will be over 1,000 tons a day.

More Fire Protection for New York.—The new high-pressure fire-protection water-system, for which the Board of Estimate of New York City has just voted the sum of $5,425,000, is generally referred to by the newspapers as the "salt-water plan," but there is every reason to believe, we are told by *Engineering News*, that when installed the system will actually use fresh water, and salt water will only enter the mains in case the fresh-water supply proves inadequate or it becomes necessary to use fireboats

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in addition to the regular pumping-stations. Says this paper further:

"Messrs. Hill and De Varona in their reports each urged that fresh water be used in the system, with merely an emergency suction connection from the pumping-station to the rivers, and they might have made a much stronger argument against the use of salt water had it seemed necessary. It is not merely a question of shorter life for mains, hydrants, etc., if salt instead of fresh water is used in them. Engineers experienced in handling brine or sea-water in pipe-systems can testify to the difficulties with valves and gates, which stick when left long shut and leak when opened and closed again. Packing of stuffing-boxes hardens and loses its life, and rust and scale from the interior of the pipes lodges in the valve seat. Salt water alone is bad enough in its effect on metals, but the salt water in the East and North rivers is contaminated with a large volume of sewage and with acids from all sorts of chemical works, and it carries frequently a large amount of sediment in suspension. If it were necessary to introduce this water into a system of high-pressure piping for fire-protection purposes, it might doubtless be done; but since fresh water can be used equally well, to take the large risks attendant on the use of salt water would seem of very doubtful expediency."

FRESH AIR IN JAPANESE PHYSICAL TRAINING.

THE Japanese woman has been taught that life is impossible without a sufficient supply of fresh air, says W. Irving Hancock, in his recent book on "Physical Training for Women by Japanese Methods." In Japan there is little window-glass. In the native houses the panes are of oiled paper, and do not shut out the air, even during the coldest nights of winter; and the Japanese sleep rarely with these paper windows closed. Mr. Hancock goes on to say:

"Fresh air—and a great abundance of it—is the Japanese rule. The woman who lies down for her night's rest has the paper-paned window thrown open a trifle. The air sweeps into the room and passes over her as she lies upon the floor. If she is cold, she adds more bed-clothing; but she does not close the window.

"In the morning one of the first tasks is to go out of doors. There the Japanese woman takes in great breaths of air. This internal cleansing with air is treated as being of more importance than the morning bath that follows soon after. The kitchen and the other rooms of the house show closed windows only on the coldest days of winter. There is no air-starvation. And the Japanese woman is a deep breather, as is shown in the strong, firm muscles that stand out at the abdomen.

"Consumption is a rare disease in Japan. Even in winter coughs are of rare occurrence, and this despite the fact that the real Japanese do not heat their rooms with anything more than an *hibachi*—a tiny charcoal-stove that does not send the temperature of the room up to any appreciable degree, but serves mainly for heating tea, for warming the hands, or for supplying the fire for a cigarette or pipe for the men of the household. When Japanese women wish to feel warmer, they add clothing, just as they would do when going out into the street. . . . . .

"The Japanese look upon full, deep breathing as being the most vital function in life. Food is not as important, altho it is necessary. The best of exercises are of little value when the breathing that accompanies them is not done properly. . . . . .

"In Anglo-Saxon countries the corset has come into such vogue that it is almost madness to attack it. But the corset, no matter how loosely it is worn, restricts breathing, and for that reason it strikes the first deadly blow at the life of woman. Deep and full breathing is impossible with the corset. In Japan corsets are worn only by a very few 'progressive' women who ape Western customs. The Japanese woman who has never seen a corset will be able, generally, to show a torso that will delight the artist or the sculptor."

The writer dwells constantly on the necessity for accompanying all physical exercise with deep breathing. He says:

"Every one who has watched a day-laborer swinging the pick has noted the 'ugh' with which he lets his implement strike the earth. This is due to his instinctive knowledge of the necessity for breath. Japanese athletes, when exercising, give vent to the same grunts, which might be called gasps. It is by this method that fresh air is carried deeply into the body. It is through this kind of exercise that the vital forces of the body are kept at their best pitch through the employment of deep breathing.

"No matter what portion of the work a Japanese woman is taking up, she is taught, between each exercise, to go to the window and to inhale a few deep breaths. It is folly to take up a new exercise until the organs have been refreshed by the introduction of several copious breaths of air."

Two New Chemical Elements.—Dr. Charles Baskerville, professor of chemistry and director of the laboratory in the University of North Carolina, announced Friday night before the Chemists' Club, in New York, his discovery that thorium, hitherto known as one of the seventy primary elements, is complex. Says *Science*:

"Dr. Baskerville has resolved thorium into two new elements. He has named one of these carolinium, after the State; the other berzelium, in honor of the great Swedish chemist who nearly a hundred years ago discovered thorium. It has never before been the good fortune of an American chemist to discover a chemical element. Dr. Baskerville's discovery of two elements is the result of ten years of persistent labor."

The isolation of an element is still an event of prime importance in the chemical world, and assertions that new elementary substances have been discovered are scrutinized with great care. Such announcements must bear the test of time before general acceptance, and tho Professor Baskerville's eminence has prevented the casting of doubt upon his discovery, it will probably be some time before we shall find his two new elements in the official lists.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"EVERY day in London," says *Popular Mechanics*, "scores of workmen's kettles are boiled in lime that will afterward be used for its proper purpose. Just before the breakfast hour, say, one of the workmen empties a quantity of the dry lime from a sack. In the center of this lime he makes a hole, and into it water is poured. Then he puts his kettles into the water, and in a few minutes the kettles boil. In thousands of cases a fire is thus spared."

"THE biggest carving-knife ever manufactured may be seen at the World's Fair," says *The American Inventor*. "This monster blade is 30 feet in length and has an edge as sharp as a razor. It is made out of the finest steel, and the handle is a masterpiece of the cutler's art, elaborately carved and beautifully polished. It would take a veritable giant to wield a knife like this. The blade is altogether of American manufacture, and it is expected to show for the first time that American cutlery has now reached a point of perfection where it fears no rivalry. The giant carving-knife cost several thousand dollars, and special machinery had to be made before its construction could begin. No such knife was ever before manufactured."

"MR. GEORGE PULLMAN once said, when asked the secret of easy riding, that the secrets are so many that no one can keep them. This is true," says *The World's Work*, "but the easing of curves is one of them. . . . The engineers of the last few years, in relaying tracks instead of starting a true circle curve with the sudden lift of the outer rail that causes the jolt and lurch that travelers know, have laid a slight parabolic curve from a point a hundred yards back on the straight track, and have elevated the outer rail imperceptibly along that curve to the maximum. The result of the device—in practise quite new—has been the annihilation of curves as regards a passenger's sense. With eyes shut he can not tell whether the track is straight or curved."

"DR. SCHOO has observed," says *Modern Medicine*, "that when mosquitoes have access to acid fruits their bite becomes less poisonous, or wholly innocuous. And Professor Celli has observed that in portions of Italy where tomatoes are largely cultivated, the people are practically free from malarial infection, altho the region is naturally very malarious. The juices of the plant constitute the natural food of the mosquito. It would seem, then, that the wide cultivation of acid fruits, such as tomatoes, strawberries, and other succulent fruits, may be made an important factor in ridding the world of this very troublesome pest. How the use of acid fruits destroys the virulence of the mosquito bite has not yet been determined. It seems probable, however, that the vegetable acids may destroy the malarial parasite."

"ACCORDING to a Pittsburg telephone manager," says *Telephony*, "the telephone was put to a novel and unusual use in Washington county recently, enabling two boys, sons of farmers, to hold their positions in their classes in the public schools from which they will graduate in another year. Incidentally, the patience and long-suffering of the country school-teacher was put to an admirable test. Smallpox broke out in the neighborhood in question, and the two scholars were among the early victims. The home was quarantined, and there was every indication that the instruction which they had been receiving would be cut off for an indefinite period. But the teacher was resourceful and willing. He called up the stricken home one evening and proposed that the boys study their lessons as usual, and he would hear them over the telephone. The idea was eagerly received. Each evening they took down the receiver, and the teacher, located several farms away, heard them recite. Neither suffered to an appreciable degree through their absence from school, and their chances for graduation are just as bright as before the disease entered their home."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

A ROMAN CATHOLIC ATTACK ON LUTHER.

THE learned Roman Catholic savant, P. Heinrich Denifle, custodian of the Archives of the Vatican Library, has thrown a bombshell into the Protestant camp by the publication, in a solid book of 860 pages, of the first volume of his "Luther and Lutherdom." When the announcement was made, some time ago, that Father Denifle was preparing a new Luther biography, it was expected that the author, who enjoys a high reputation as a scholar, would produce a dispassionate scientific work from a Roman Catholic standpoint. On the contrary, however, the new Denifle biography is undoubtedly the bitterest attack upon Luther that has ever been made. Professor Hausleiter, of the University of Greifswald, subjects the methods of the Roman Catholic historian to a searching analysis (in the Scientific Supplement of the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung*), and condemns them as thoroughly unscientific.

The reader, he says, can open the work of Denifle on almost any page and find Luther depicted as "an empty-headed, begging monk," "a thoroughly superficial theologian," "a man with an evil heart," "one who was filled with a Satanic hatred of the church," etc., etc. An appeal to the book itself readily confirms this impression, as will be seen from the following quotations:

"The salvation preached by Luther and his followers was not Christ. . . . They found their salvation in fleshly union with women."

"Luther took to himself, as a witness of the gospel, a concubine, and called her his wife."

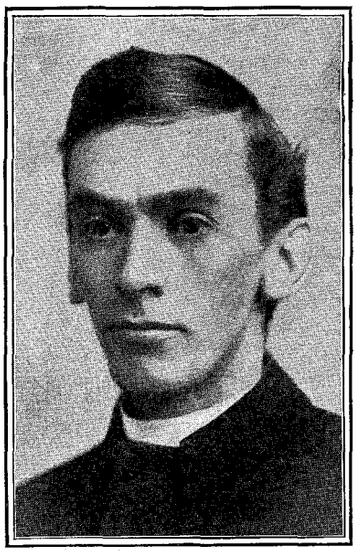
"The monks who deserted the cloisters all turned out to be rowdies. . . . It was a fortunate thing that the church was rid of these questionable characters, and that this cleared the atmosphere. . . . The followers of Luther were the very excrement of human society."

"The Lutheran God always approved an entirely sinful life."

"The Lutheran doctrine of justification by faith is practically equivalent to an encouragement to sin, since it teaches that God is ready at any time to forgive all transgressions freely."

Denifle closes his work with this exhortation:

"We Catholics will have nothing to do with the Lutheran hocuspocus. We reject the silly faith of the Protestants because we are reasonable people and think as rational creatures. Therefore our cry should be, 'Away from Luther, and back to Christ and his church!' so that we can continue to be good Christians with common sense and judgment."



CANON HENSLEY HENSON, OF WESTMINSTER,

Whose latest article on "The Future of the Bible" has caused a sensation in church circles.

Denifle's attack has, of course, evoked other replies from Protestant sources. They have come in goodly numbers and from the best of authorities. Professor Harnack, of Berlin, takes up the whole question in the *Theologische Literaturzeitung* (Leipsic), declaring that the new book is only one of a kind of polemical writings put out from time to time by Roman Catholic scholars and directed against the personal side of Luther. Such travesties, he says, are based upon misinterpretation of what is reported by Luther's friends in his "Table Talk" and "Letters," and the method of the writers is declared to be substantially the same as that of Janssen, who some years ago wrote an extensive history of the Germans, proving on the basis of contemporaneous sources, mostly Protestant, that the Reformation was the greatest misfortune that ever befell Europe.

The most complete reply has been published by Seeberg, of Berlin, a theologian whose utterances have almost as much weight as Harnack's. He has issued a special brochure, entitled "Luther und Luthertum, in der neuesten katholischen Beleuchtung" (Luther and Lutherdom, according to the latest Catholic Exposition), in which examples of Denifle's deductions are compared with the original sources, and proof is furnished that in each case these sources have been abused. Seeberg concludes: "An historic character like Luther, who moved the world, could not have been the corrupt and empty-headed man here depicted. Denifle's work is the gigantic caricature of the age."

The Roman Catholic papers are by no means unanimous in praise of the new Luther biography. Among the most sanguine is *Der Katholik*, which sees in Denifle's book the demolition of the hollow learning of Protestantism. The *Germania* (Berlin), the most influential Roman Catholic journal in Germany, thinks the author has been too "rough" in his methods; and the *Volks-Zeitung* (Cologne), next in importance among Roman Catholic papers, thinks the author ought to have been more careful, altho the results are "safe." The *Chronik* (Leipsic) declares that many Italian church papers condemn the work sharply.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CANON HENSON AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE SCRIPTURES.

CANON HENSLEY HENSON, of Westminster, who is known in this country as a theologian of radical tendencies and a warm advocate of church union, has written an article on "The Future of the Bible" which is startling in its challenge to accepted traditions. It appears in *The Contemporary Review* (April), and deals with the "revolution" in educated Christian thought which is alleged to have taken place with respect to the sacred writings of Christianity. Says the canon:

"We may realize the measure of the change by considering what is the value to the modern thinker and student of such notions as those of 'inspiration' and 'canonicity.' In what sense is it now believed that the books which compose the Bible are 'inspired' in any special sense? Certain it is that the student does not allow this 'inspiration' to influence in the slightest degree his treatment of the documents. 'Inspiration' is not allowed to certify the truth of any statement which can not be substantiated at the bar of reason and evidence. 'Inspiration' is not allowed to override the objections which the Christian conscience takes against much that is recorded in the older Scriptures. The day has gone by for proof texts and harmonies. And so with 'canonicity.' What authority is added to any book of Scripture by the circumstance that it is 'canonical'? Does any thoughtful man find in the fact that the Book of Esther is 'canonical' any reason for revising the unfavorable judgment which he is certain to form of that work? Or does the absence of 'canonicity' in the case of the Book of Wisdom detract in the slightest degree from its historic interest and its spiritual value? Canonicity, of course, in the simple sense of ecclesiastical acceptance and liturgical usage, will remain a convenient notion enough, but as carrying any kind of authoritative certificate either of spiritual value or of historic truth it has ceased to have reality. The student does not ask whether a book is canonical or inspired. He applies his methods of investigation without any embarrassment or reservation on these counts."

The most sensational phrases in the article, which were cabled to this country on their first appearance in print, and became the

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subject of widespread criticism, are contained in the following paragraph:

"Any clergyman who takes the trouble to find out what his parishioners really think about the narratives of the Old Testament will make some surprising discoveries. He will find that the more thoughtful and sensitive people are often seriously troubled by what they hear, that coarser minds are moved to contempt, greatly to their own moral injury. It is becoming clear that in the interest of Christianity itself ecclesiastical usage ought more faithfully to reflect the actual opinion about the Bible which now obtains. A drastic revision of the lectionary would seem to be urgently called for. The very circumstance that so many of our people are prepared to acquiesce in what they hear from the lectern, and even to believe that in some way or other what they hear is divinely true, makes the present indiscriminate reading of the Bible in public an extremely perilous proceeding. Educated men, as we have already indicated, have at their disposal means by which to escape from the perplexities stirred in their minds by the incredible, puerile, or demoralizing narratives which the Old Testament contains. But these resources are not accessible, and will never be accessible, to the masses of the people. *They* have no other course open to them, when the difficulty is brought home either by their own intelligence or by the action of others, than the violent and unhappy course of repudiating the Bible altogether. The transition is prompt and obvious in untutored minds from a sacred volume, too sacred for discussion, to a pack of lies, too gross for toleration. The principle of selection on the basis of what is edifying is, of course, familiar enough in the church. It is implied in the whole notion of an official lectionary. There are passages—many passages—which the church does not read in public. There is, therefore, nothing revolutionary in asking for another and a far more drastic revision."

Pursuing the same line of argument, Canon Henson says:

"Moreover, it is hard to see why the traditional practise of limiting the lessons read in church to the Bible should forever continue. It was the custom in the primitive church and throughout the Middle Ages to read the lives of the saints, and tho, no doubt, the practise became discredited by the puerilities which, under that description, were generally included, still the principle is sound enough, and when we remember how great an accumulation of devotional and edifying literature the Christian church possesses, and how very little of this is known, or likely to be known, to the masses of Christian people, it does seem a strange failure of duty on the part of the church to make no use of it in her public services. We want to supplement the canonical Scriptures by the Christian compositions which have secured the approval of general acceptance, and taken the rank of spiritual classics among religious people, just as in the worship of the church the psalter has been supplemented by hymns and anthems. The unhappy rigidity which restricts the modern English church at the lectern to the canonical Scriptures and, in the reading-desk, to the prayer-book is as intrinsically indefensible as it is practically mischievous."

As if to balance this iconoclastic treatment of Scriptural authority, Canon Henson proceeds to advance three broad considerations in justification of the paramount place which the Bible has traditionally held in the life of the Christian society:

"In the first place, the Bible remains, after all the educational discussions of our time, the best manual of fundamental morality of which experience has knowledge. Its excellence arises, perhaps, from two causes. On the one hand, in the Bible, morality is always linked with the enthusiasm of religious conviction. On the other hand, morality is constantly illustrated by famous examples. . . . . .

"In the second place, the Bible is still, what it has always been throughout Christian history, the best corrective of ecclesiastical corruption. It is, of course, matter of fact that the Christian society is always tending to lapse into abuses. Again and again Christianity has presented the aspect of an almost complete departure from primitive models of faith and conduct, but at all times there has been within the church an instrument ready to hand for making successful appeal to the slumbering Christian conscience against prevailing ecclesiastical aberrations. . . . Ecclesiastical abuses, errors in doctrine, blunders in policy, do not suggest to the masses of English-speaking people that Christianity itself is false. They are not wont to seek in the doctrines and procedures of any church the most authoritative statement of religious truth. The sacred book is more to them than the sacred system. The New Testament—at least in the broad lines of its teaching—is familiarly known, and against the New Testament there is no resentment. Instinctively an appeal is made from the ecclesiastical system or systems to the sacred literature, and, at the worst, men go outside the churches, not in the bitterness of alienation, but, as they profess and believe, in order to be better Christians. It would be difficult to exaggerate the public value of all this. . . . . .

"In the third place, the Bible, and herein, of course, specially, tho not exclusively, the New Testament, is perhaps the most effectual check we have on the materialistic tendencies of modern life. . . . There is something in the social atmosphere created by a widely diffused acquaintance with the Scriptures which moderates the acerbity of economic strife, shames the arrogant selfishness of prosperity, and mitigates the embittered resentments of want. Far better than intermittent disquisitions from a supreme ecclesiastical authority is the stamping indelibly on the public conscience of that conception of human duty which is expressed in the gospel. This great service to peace and to social reformation is rendered by the Bible in the familiar usage of the people."

There are not lacking signs, concludes the Canon, that the changing attitude of the modern world toward the Bible will "involve for multitudes a weakening of moral allegiance; so that the advocates of the new reformation, like their spiritual ancestors, will at every turn be hindered and discredited by the moral scandals which seem to have direct connection with their teaching." But "the result which will finally be reached will justify the faith of the latest advocates of doctrinal reform, and more than compensate for the troubles of the present distress. The twentieth century will add yet another solemn historic affirmation of the evangelic oracle to the long series which the Christian centuries contain, 'Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my Word shall not pass away.'"

YOUNG MEN AS CHURCH-GOERS.

ACCORDING to statistics furnished by the Rev. Frank Graves Cressey, Ph.D., in his new book on "The Church and Young Men," the large majority of young men in this country, or 9,059,000 out of 14,250,000, are outside of church-membership. Allowing an ample margin for those who are not members of any church, but who attend religious services at least occasionally, he thinks it safe to say that fully one-half the aggregate number are wholly outside of church-fellowship or direct influence.

Mr. Edward Bok, the editor of *The Ladies' Home Journal*, supplements these figures in an article in the New York *Outlook* (April 16), comparing the results of an investigation recently made with one undertaken by him nine years ago. "The percentage of attending young men," he finds, "is eight per cent. less than it was then, and then it was only thirty per cent. Hence, only about twenty-two out of every one hundred young men, taken at random in the cities of the country, attend church on Sunday."

In seeking to account for the non-attendance of so large a percentage of young man, Mr. Bok interviewed a number of clergymen, asking them what, in their opinion, kept young men away from the church. Some said "the bicycle"; others "the Sunday newspaper." A large majority, however, declared their belief that "Sunday golf is the curse of our young men." Mr. Bok was himself convinced that none of these alleged causes was the real one, and in order to satisfy himself as to the truth in the matter, he instituted an inquiry in eight communities in different parts of the country, where there were either no golf-links at all or Sunday golfing was prohibited. At this point we quote:

"In these eight communities there were, all told, thirty-one churches, and the Young Men's Christian Associations nearest to these communities obtained for me the figures that in these communities there were sixteen hundred and forty young men between

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the ages of twenty and thirty-five in the neighborhood of these churches. Then I had secured for me the attendance, for four consecutive Sundays, of the number of young men, between the ages given, at each of these churches, with the result that the highest attendance at all the thirty-one churches combined, on any one Sunday, was four hundred and twenty-seven. Now, there was no Sunday golf possible in these communities, and yet twelve hundred and thirteen out of sixteen hundred and forty young men did not go to church! What was the reason here?

"I asked all the clergymen. 'Indifference to holy things,' said several. 'The deterioration of the modern young man,' said others, and these two opinions represented nineteen out of thirty-one clergymen.

"Then I asked the young men. I took nineteen of them.

"'Not enough to go for,' was substantially the verdict of eleven out of the nineteen.

"'What do you mean by that?' I asked in each case.

"'Why, one doesn't get enough out of the sermons that are preached to make the effort worth while to go to hear them,' said one young man.

"'You don't get anything to carry away with you,' said another.

"'Why, Dr. —— (mentioning the name of one of the ministers) isn't practical. It is all theory, theory, words, words. He doesn't seem to go out into the world among men. Too much old Palestine and cloister study. Doesn't know men; only books. I thought it was myself, for a time. But father says the same, altho it came hard for him to confess it. Now he doesn't go any more.'"

Equipped with a clew, Mr. Bok set out to find if the preacher who gave the young man something "to carry away" with him would attract young men, and he selected seven ministers each of whom fulfilled the young man's ideal of being a minister who either knew the every-day world of men and the needs of the men in that world, or who struck the big note of vitality in his sermons. In the immediate neighborhood of these seven churches, located in five cities well apart, Mr. Bok discovered that six thousand one hundred and ten young men resided, and that four thousand six hundred and fourteen—all between the ages of twenty and thirty-five—were in attendance on a given Sunday. Inquiry as to why the fifteen hundred remaining absented themselves from church brought responses divided between "too tired when Sunday comes" and a preference for spending the day in the open air. The conclusion, after a marshaling of facts and statistics, is given by the writer without personal commitment, but as the opinion of an honest and up-to-date clergyman who was interviewed. We quote:

"'It is for the church to strive for such social conditions that a man need not work like a slave so that he reaches Sunday all tired out. No, it is not Utopian; it is possible. The curse of the modern man is not Sunday golf or anything of that nature. It is money-madness; the inability to see, amid the hot pace of to-day, that there is something higher, bigger, better to live and strive for in the world than money-getting; to show him that he is happier with little than with much; to show him the thing that is worth while; to strip the externals from the kernel; to raise his manhood. That is religion—the real religion; that is the religion that the church should stand for; not whether a man is right or wrong if he plays golf or whether he goes to church.

"'Most of these men are right, and I say it as a clergyman who has heard many others. The message that is delivered Sunday after Sunday from the average pulpit is vapid and meaningless to the man of affairs of to-day. Your man of the present requires a different preaching than did his father. He wants you to say something, and to say it without flourishes and in as short a time as possible. He has no time or patience with theories. He wants to know what is what—a living message full of the breath of vital life.

"'When ministers preach that kind of sermon, you or any one else won't be asking why fifteen hundred young men don't come to church. The churches will be asking how to seat the young men. As it is, my wonder is not that these fifteen hundred young men do not go to church, but that the four thousand and odd you tell me about *do* go!'

"I have studied this question of the young man and the church for many years now, and I have come to the conclusion, whether we ministers choose to like it or not, that the fault lies as much with what we preach, if not a little more, as with the willingness of the young man to come and hear us. The young man will come fast enough if you give him something to come for."

DR. HILLIS'S PLEA FOR A "CHURCH TRUST."

THE Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, of Brooklyn, contributes an eloquent article to *Everybody's Magazine* (April), urging a "consolidation of churches" as the next great step in religious progress. His argument, which has attracted considerable attention in the religious world, may be summarized as follows:

The epoch of church unity has fully come. It could no longer be delayed. The men who have simplified business, reorganized the banks under one management, reorganized the factory, and the store, and the shops, are the men who are now in the pews. Having learned how to save the wastes on Saturday, they are irritated by the ecclesiastical wastes manifest on Sunday. They realize that it is unnecessary, illogical, puerile, and wicked to duplicate many church plants, involving enormous wastes and lessened efficiency, when one central church plant could quadruple the results at one-quarter of the cost.

The results of this division and denominational rivalry are a decline in the interest in the church and of the attendance upon it; a support waning to the point of extinction. I have before me the statistics of a town in a Western State with a thousand inhabitants. Two of the churches are closed, with boards nailed over the windows, a third is used as a storehouse for grain. Of the six churches in the place but two are open, and these meet with scant support. Either the Christian forces of the ten thousand small towns and villages of the country must unite or the churches will perish, and one-half of the ministers die or resign, with broken hearts.

The ideal church would be one noble building centrally situated, crowded from Sunday morning until the next Saturday night, a church that would be the center of the social, the musical, the literary, the ethical life of the community; the home of light and joy; the pride of all the people. With numbers come enthusiasm, economy, emulation, efficiency. When all the musical talent of the community is organized and unified, music, the highest of the fine arts, will become a great moral force. When all the teaching forces—and the art of teaching is a great gift, and there are only a few teachers out of two thousand that know how to impart wisdom—are united, the Sunday-school will again become popular. Instead of ten preachers there ought to be three.

Church unity is eminently practical, and it has already been achieved in part. It is to be reached by separating essentials from non-essentials. The Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount and the teachings of Jesus Christ are no more denominational than the multiplication-table. The principles of ethics are no more Presbyterian or Episcopalian or Congregational than the laws of light and heat. The facts of geology and astronomy and physiology and hygiene are the same for all people, and the simplicities and universalities of Christianity appeal to men as men. The essential things in the high school are the things of literature and science and mathematics. These are taught to all temperaments and classes by the school-teachers. The individual theories on political economy, tariff, and protection can be taught at home by the parents. The things of God and Jesus Christ are the great essentials. The unessential things are the things of John Calvin, of the Congregationalist John Robinson, of the Baptist Roger Williams, of the Episcopal Archbishop Laud, of the Methodist John Wesley. In other words, the temperamental things belong to the family and the parent; the universals of church and Sunday belong to God and Jesus Christ. This is revolutionary—this destroys the basis of probably 165 out of the 169 denominations—this would leave perhaps one great Protestant Church, one Roman Catholic Church, and one church, named the Quaker, that would not believe in any form, but only in the uncontrolled life of the spirit.

The religious journals adopt an attitude of sympathy toward Dr. Hillis's ideal, but for the most part are skeptical as to the practicability of his plans. The New York *Examiner* (Baptist) says: "The question is larger than is often assumed, and can not be disposed of by manipulating a few figures and invoking the aid of

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the man who now poses so consciously in all our week-day affairs, the 'man of business.' . . . The principle of Christian unity in this country will never be the spirit of compromise and the desire for commercial economy." In a similar strain speaks *The Christian Evangelist* (St. Louis, Disciples of Christ):

"It is not enough to point out the economic advantage of the eight or ten churches in a small town cooperating or uniting as one church. Unless these churches are made to see how this can be done without the sacrifice of truth or of conscience they will continue to maintain their separate denominational existence, and starve if need be. The element of conscience can not be ignored in the treatment of this question. Better divisions even, with all their waste and narrow provincialism, than a union purchased at the sacrifice of a good conscience or by the surrender of honest convictions of truth."

The Universalist Leader (Boston) says:

"Does not the success of the church mean more than the saving of dollars? There are many churches near enough in accord to put aside some minor differences and work together in harmony along general lines of service, but there are others whose real life is fundamentally different; their great contribution to the world can not be tabulated as things done; they are thinking; they are getting at the sources of all doing. Great progress has been made in religion during the recent centuries and the progress is largely due to the different denominations struggling in competition for the best things."

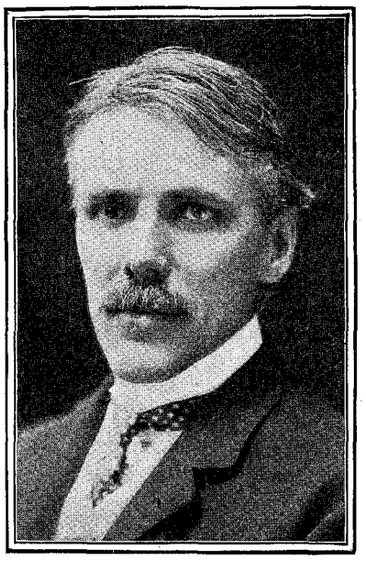
The Living Church (Milwaukee, Prot. Episc.) draws the following deduction from a supposititious case:

"Suppose we call to our mind's vision, as Dr. Hillis has done, a state of American Christianity in which there had survived three groups only of Christian people: 'one great Protestant Church, one Roman Catholic Church, and one church named the Quaker.' What, then, would be the state of Christianity? . . . . . .

"We should then have a great organization believing that there is a God, with the addition that Jesus Christ bears or bore some undefined and undefinable relation to Him, and to them; an organization largely devoted to ethical and secular works, and with no positive system of theology. The Roman Catholic Church would present the sole remaining body that would claim to be in fact the Kingdom of God, in which the perpetual presence of Jesus Christ is continuously vouchsafed, in which alone is brought down, from the days of the apostles, the organism of which they were parts and of which Jesus Christ is the head; the only body that claimed to speak authoritatively as to the person of Jesus Christ, the facts of his divine conception, birth, life, work, death, resurrection, ascension, sending of the Holy Spirit; as to the sacraments which he ordained, instituted, and commanded to be observed; as to the relationship of man to God. The Roman Catholic Church would be the only body in the United States that would claim to have a *certain faith* as to the things pertaining to God and eternity; to have *continuity* with the church which Jesus Christ declared to be his body; and to have *authority* as the Kingdom of God on earth.

"As between these two forces, can any sane man question which would be the ultimate survivor? The 'Protestant Church' would be a temporary resting-place between faith and agnosticism. It could not officially maintain faith whenever any of its members challenged any postulate that to-day is reckoned a part of orthodox Christianity, for to do so would be to violate its own foundation principles. . . . . .

"There are really just two ways in which Christian unity may ever be attained. One is on the basis of authority; the other on the basis of corporate agnosticism, with no limits to individual belief. Christian people may choose the one or the other."



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THE REV. DR. NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS, OF BROOKLYN,

Who thinks that the business spirit of the age compels "reorganization" in religion, as well as in industry.

THE METHODIST TIME LIMIT.

THERE is still a feeling of dissatisfaction within the Methodist Church in regard to the present status of pastoral service, and this sentiment is said to be growing. The controversy over the Methodist time-limit has been going on for over a century. In 1804, a rule was passed restricting Methodist preachers from remaining in one place more than two years. Sixty years later, three years was made the limit. In 1888 the period was changed to five years, and in 1900 the time-limit was abolished altogether. At the present time, a movement is on foot to return to the itinerancy, and *Zion's Herald* (Boston), which is leading the new crusade, has this to say:

"As the result of a comprehensive and, we trust, unprejudiced study of the situation in the church at large, we confidently predict that the next general conference will restore the time-limit. Four years' trial has justified our prophecy that our itinerancy can not exist without a time-limit. The increased difficulty in adjusting the appointments at the annual conference sessions, the growth of a favored class in our ministry, an unyielding determination on the part of some ministers to remain indefinitely because it seems possible to do so, the inevitable but unwelcome drift toward a Congregational polity and away from that which has always been distinctively Methodist—these are the main reasons why so many who favored the removal of the limit are strenuously advocating its restoration."

The Western Christian Advocate (Cincinnati) takes the opposite side of the argument:

"Our church is finding that there are difficulties and disadvantages even in liberty, but, tho the way back to Egypt may be open to it, we sincerely hope it will not take it. For one thing our pastors and churches are suffering from a certain feverishness and restlessness which have got into the blood from the usages of the past and are not at once to be eliminated. They think they must 'have a change,' much as half the people of Brooklyn think they must get new residences on the first of May since that date has been from of old 'moving-day.'

"Every system of pulpit supply, as our sister churches abundantly demonstrate, is open to some objection. Nothing human is perfect, and we are not surprised that there is some friction under the existing status. Nevertheless, we thoroughly believe that our church has devised a method combining flexibility with strength, the requisite concessions to individual and churchly liberty with the necessity of supervisional authority and connectional unity, and we think it would be both rash and foolish to disturb it until it has had a chance to show what it can do. Children pull up the seeds they have planted to see whether they have grown or not. It is somewhat better to let them alone for a while."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

A LAW has been "published" in Spain making Sunday a day of rest, and prohibiting manual labor on that day. Consul R. M. Bartleman, of Cadiz, who furnishes this information in *The Daily Consular Reports* (Washington, April 19) goes on to say: "Work on Sunday will be permitted only when absolutely necessary, the hours to conform with the regulations. On no account are women or persons under eighteen years of age to be employed on said day. The law will be put in force within six months."

THE Abbé Loisy, the French biblical critic whose alleged heresies have provoked widespread discussion both in Europe and this country, has forwarded to the Vatican what is described as his third formula of submission. It is stated that the distinguished theologian, while not compromising his integrity as a scientific historian and exegete, has expressed his submission in terms which conform more closely than before to Roman standards of orthodoxy. "At the same time," says the London *Church Times* (Anglican), "the Pope is understood to have written to the Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris urging him to deal gently with the abbé, errors rather than persons being the subjects of ecclesiastical censure. If the Pope can help it, Abbé Loisy will not be driven out of the church; but it remains to be seen who is the real head of the Roman Church, the so-called supreme Pontiff, or the power behind the Pope."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

GENERAL KODAMA AND HIS PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

LONDON, Paris, and Berlin, through the medium of those military experts who hold forth in *The Times*, the *Figaro*, and the *Kreuz Zeitung*, are at last beginning to agree on the subject of the larger strategical outlines of Japan's campaign on land. Europe's first impression that all operations in the field were to be rigidly controlled by the general staff in Tokyo has been greatly modified. This first impression was so strong that the Japanese were held to be taking the field with no one general in supreme authority at the front. The Mikado's forces, it was thought, had been divided into three armies, each of some 100,000 men, and all directed from home.

NICHOLAS BURNS HIS PLAY-THINGS.

—*Der Wahre Jacob* (Stuttgart).

Correct as this view may have been at first, it is now altogether modified. The strategy is still determined, in outline, at Tokyo, but the tactics—the operations in the presence of the enemy—are said to be now under the absolute control of one commander. The London *Standard* states the case even more categorically. "The man who is responsible for the plan of campaign is General Kodama," it declares. "He is the brain of the Japanese army." Its impressions of his capacity for such a position of responsibility are thus stated:

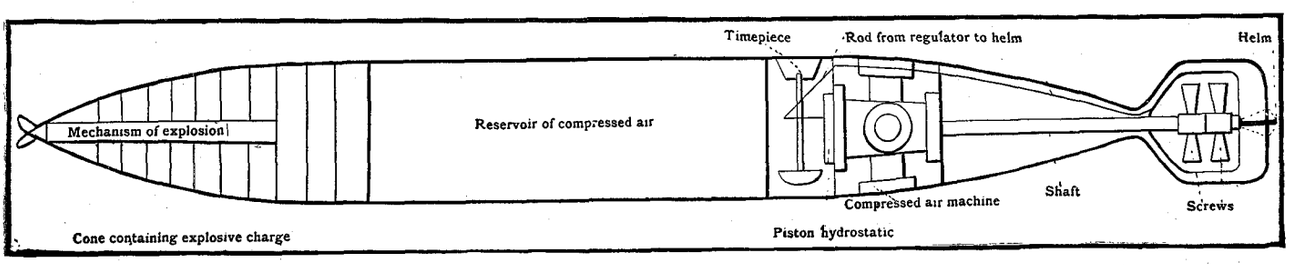
"Gen. Gentaro Kodama comes of a fighting race. He was born half a century ago in the province of Choshu, one of the four great Daimiates, or feudal clans, that have given an unbroken succession of warriors and leaders to Japan. The Marquis Ito, most famous of modern statesmen; Inouye, ablest of diplomatists and administrators; Yamagata, who created a national army out of bands of feudal retainers—these and many renowned rulers are from Choshu. Indeed, there is only one other clan with this heritage of power. If you are not from Satsuma, you must be from Choshu. Hence the term 'Sat-Cho,' familiar in politics to denote the combination of these clans. The province in which General Kodama was born played a foremost part in the revolution that overthrew the Shogun and restored the authority of the Mikado. His clansmen were the first to lay aside armor and sword and spear and to adopt the rifle and discipline and tactics of Europe. Baron Kodama was sixteen years old when Japan threw off her feudal chains. His father died in his fifth year and left him to the care of a son-in-law, who seven years later was the victim of political assassins. At thirteen Kodama was struggling with poverty and family responsibility. The revolution swept him into the forces arraigned against feudalism, and when only sixteen he was fighting the Daimios and their two-sworded retainers who had ruled the land for eight centuries. . . . . .

"In 1889 he was gazetted major-general, and in the following year was sent to Europe to study the military systems of the West. During the war with China he held the responsible post of Vice Minister for War, and afterward became chief of that department. At the same time he was Governor-General of Formosa, a position which he retains. In 1903 he accepted the portfolio of Home Secretary, having been already raised to the peerage in 1895, with the rank of lieutenant-general.

"When Baron Kodama entered politics, the popular cry was for bold administration, and the hopes of reformers centered in the soldier-statesman, to whom they had given the name 'Minister of the Ax,' because of his declaration that in politics, as in battle, a sharp ax is better than a blunt knife. The encroachments of Russia in Manchuria and Korea turned the soldier's energies into their true channel, and in October of last year, when Major-General Tamura died, he quitted the cabinet to take over the duties of assistant chief of the headquarters staff. To the responsibilities and difficulties of this great position Baron Kodama has brought the wisdom, the judgment, the unswerving rectitude, and the inexhaustible perseverance that have distinguished him throughout his career. He is a man of strong character, and possesses in no small degree the indefinable quality known as personal magnetism. He has that infinite capacity for taking pains which Michelangelo called genius. Night and day he sits at his desk attending to the multitudinous details of a great war; yet his door is never closed upon a friend, or even a stranger who has the least claim to his attention. During the Chinese war he suffered in health from the continuous strain of work, and has since adopted a severe *régime* in food and drink, with the result that at fifty he is a young man, brimful of energy and high spirits. He takes a lively interest in education; has been a director of the Military Academy; founded the Formosa College in Tokyo; and gave his books and his money to establish a library for poor students in his native town. Baron Kodama is certainly a man who inspires confidence."

In spite of its high opinion of the Japanese commander, the London daily advises its readers to suspend judgment regarding his ability to cope with General Kuropatkin—at least until the first great battle has been fought. It remains to be seen, it says, precisely how General Kodama proposes to conduct his campaign. He may play the part of von Moltke in the Franco-Prussian war, directing all operations from his desk, or he may follow the example of Grant and do his thinking while he fights. In any event, General Kodama proposes a movement into Manchuria from the coast, under cover of Admiral Togo's fleet, while protecting a line of retreat into Korea in case of mishap. His genius will receive its severest test when he attempts to screen the movements of his main army by means of cavalry so weak as that of Japan. His immediate plan, surmises one of the military experts of the London *Times*, is the concentration of a strong force at New-Chwang. "New-Chwang once secured, Japan will have a magnificent base. She will command the railway to the west toward Shan-hai-kwan, and also up to Hsin-mintun. The Japanese can cut the Russian railway line and thus isolate Port Arthur." The remainder of the campaign on land will develop itself:

"Having thus a base at New-Chwang and a probable further base at Hai-cheng, with its isolated hills, which make an ideal strong-



MECHANISM OF A WHITEHEAD TORPEDO IN USE BY JAPAN.

The torpedo (upon being discharged through its tube) answers to its helm, which in turn is controlled through the time-piece.

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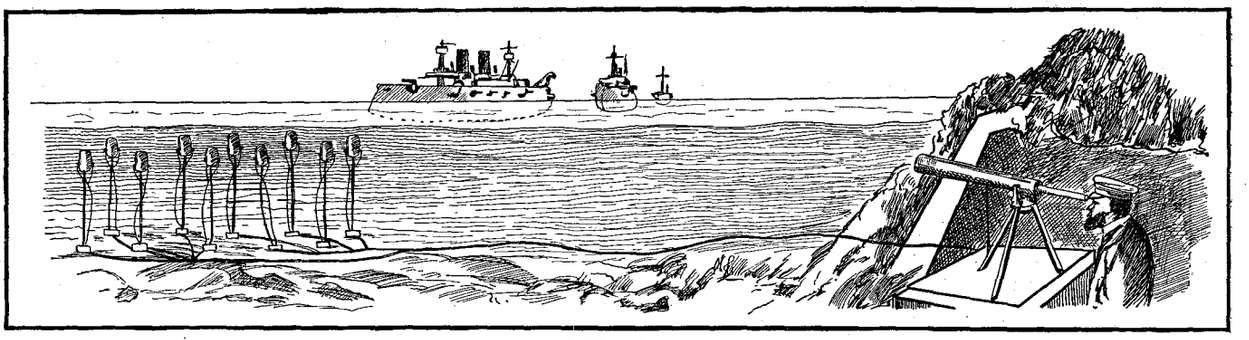


A Mine Field.

hold, with an almost unlimited supply of pure water, the question is, What will they do next? Will they sit quietly on the defensive, starving out Port Arthur and the Russians on the Yalu, who can be easily shelled, once the floating tidal ice breaks, by the Japanese gunboats, or will they move on, seize the next Russian stronghold twenty miles beyond Hai-cheng, called An-shan-chau, another natural fortress of great importance commanding Liau-yang?

"With the command of New-Chwang port the Japanese will have the Liau River open into the heart of the country; their small gunboats and protected large junks will do much to aid and support military operations, especially should an attack be contemplated on An-shan-chau, or even Liau-yang, and later on, as their army advances northward, to the next great natural stronghold of Tir-ling. If the Japanese once secure themselves at Tir-ling, they will not only be in actual possession of Southern Manchuria, but will be able perhaps to come to terms with Russia.

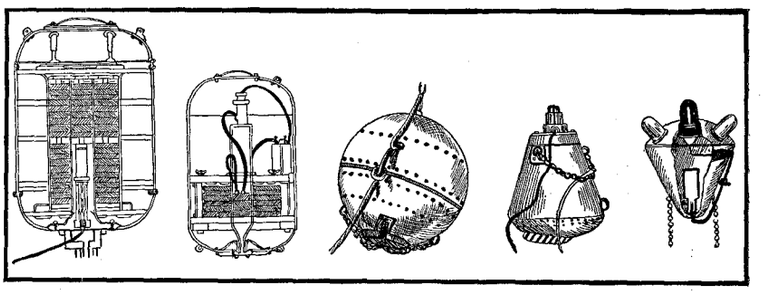
"Japan will not fight at either Liau-yang or Mukden if she can avoid it, and it is probable that Russia will, for the same reasons, hold the natural fortresses rather than the towns. The Japanese desire to inflict as little suffering as possible on the natives. The Russians are imbued with the same humane feelings, and any one who knows the high Russian officials knows well that they will do all in their power from kindly feeling, not to mention considerations of policy, not to cause destruction to the native cities.

"The writer does not believe that either Port Arthur or Vladivostok will be seriously attacked in the mean time. They will be repeatedly annoyed and worried, but the war will be fought out on the plains of Central Manchuria. That it will be a long war is nearly certain. Japan at the worst will have a way of retreat overland into Korea."

General Kodama, nevertheless, would be well advised, no doubt, in heeding the views set forth by the military expert of the *Pester Lloyd* (Budapest). That authority is both amazed and amused by the notion of a Japanese descent upon New-Chwang, as it would, he thinks, benefit only the Russians. We read:

"All these prognostications and reports that the Japanese are about to effect a landing at New-Chwang are calculated to inspire the belief that such a course would be the most natural one for the Mikado's soldiers to adopt, and that Russia has grave reason to dread it. Now it goes without saying that a belligerent will not reveal to the enemy any circumstance of peril to himself. Yet there is an appearance of Russian invitation to the Japanese: 'Come here! Look! I am most weak in this particular spot!' As a matter of fact, this is not the case, for that which apparently is so great a source of Russian dread is in reality the most welcome opportunity Japan could afford to Russia. A landing at New-Chwang in the immediate future would entail a division of the Japanese forces into two groups or armies, miles apart, unable to cooperate adequately. Nor would the land forces of the Japanese only be separated. Their fleet would have to divide, one portion going westward and another eastward of the Liao-Tung peninsula. The Russians might then possibly have an advantage on both land and sea in dealing first with one and then with another of the sundered Japanese forces.

"An attempt to effect a landing at New-Chwang, therefore, would beyond all doubt entail risks of the most serious kind. But the risks would be run by the Japanese. The Russians would be running no risks at all."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.



Observation mine (exploded from land). Electric mine (self-acting). Spherical mine (operated from land). Ground mine (connected with land battery). Heart mine (explodes if hit).

Gun cotton is used inside the observation and electric mines with which the fuse unites. The electric mine is equipped with batteries.

MINES FOR NAVAL WARFARE.

RUSSIAN INDIFFERENCE TO PORT ARTHUR AND VLADIVOSTOK.

WHILE Port Arthur has not fallen, nor been cut off and isolated, and while the northern stronghold, Vladivostok, is not often made a port of call by the Japanese, the comments of Russian organs indicate that the loss of these places is regarded as quite probable, and is feared, if not expected. "What then?" is a question freely discussed, and in some papers the discovery is announced that, in modern wars, fortresses are useless, if not actually detrimental, as a source of weakness and of a sense of security that has no real justification. The *Novoye Vremya* (St. Petersburg) writes voluminously on the shallowness of "scientific compaigning," and denies that there is such a thing as a "plan of operations." Russia, it says, needs no plan, except the simple, old, effective plan of meeting and defeating the enemy's army. It says regarding the speculations on the consequences of this or that possible success of the Japanese:

"People are disposed to regard as important achievements the occupation by Japan of Chemulpo or Masampho, or other Korean bases. Here and there apprehensions are gravely expressed with reference to the cutting-off of Port Arthur. But all these discussions are fundamentally fallacious. The occupation by the Japanese of any places or cities is of no consequence either to them or to us. What they must do is encounter and destroy the main bodies of our army. Without such decisive land victories no successes in naval operations can give them any permanent advantage. Similarly, on our side, it is not necessary that we should capture this or that Korean or Japanese base. Our aim should be the annihilation of the enemy's army and navy. . . . . .

"Napoleon's famous saying, 'I have never had any plan of campaign,' is pertinent just now. In many spheres of human activity the simplest solutions are often the last ones. Our only rational plan should be to govern our movements by the policy of the

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enemy as to his main army, and to pay no attention to cities, sections, and temporary successes."

The writer goes on to show that, if anywhere and at any time the enemy's army should be destroyed, Japan would be forced to evacuate the cities she has occupied thus far and the ports she may by that time have wrested from Russia. Her present successes may turn out to have been serious drawbacks. Let Port Arthur and Vladivostok fall, if they can not withstand repeated bombardments and a long siege. How would that affect the issue? If Japan is subsequently defeated by superior forces, she will have to retire from these strongholds. In the St. Petersburg *Novosti* it is argued that military science no longer attaches special importance to fortresses:

"The construction and equipment of fortresses require years and hundreds of millions. In a decade the original armament becomes obsolete, and has to be replaced and renewed. At the best, the enemy, provided his forces are numerous enough, can invest any stronghold and move the bulk of the army forward. It does not arrest an advancing and powerful host. Plevna detained the Russians for a time, but when it was reduced, the Czar's army had left it far behind. Armies to-day depend more and more on hastily erected defenses and intrenchments on the very field of battle. Fighting in the open has become well-nigh impossible, owing to the terribly destructive effects of modern field-guns; but improvised works can not be made in advance the objective of operations, and they are less costly and more appropriate to the changing circumstances of a campaign."

General Kui, a military authority, writes in the *Novosti* that a fortress may be more useful in defeat than in defensive warfare. He believes that the guns of Port Arthur saved the Russian fleet from total destruction in the February attack, but he admits that it is possible to exaggerate the importance of land batteries. The prevalent St. Petersburg view is that the capture of Port Arthur and Vladivostok would not materially weaken Russia, who needs time alone to render her position in Manchuria impregnable, and even to regain mastery of the sea.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HOHENZOLLERN AND HERERO.
—*Ulk* (Berlin)

HERERO HORRORS.

THE native insurrection against the imperial Government in German Southwest Africa has attained proportions which fill the Berlin press with alarm. The topic now takes precedence of all others in the newspapers of Emperor William's dominions. Official and semi-official organs confess that the authorities must send some thousands of additional troops to the colony if the Hereros, as the insurgents are called, do not speedily succumb. "It becomes more and more evident," remarks the Berlin *Kreuz Zeitung*, "that this is a serious war, and that the time has come to effect the subjection and disarming of the rebels by powerful effort."

With the spread of the insurrection and with the development of a somewhat excited state of opinion regarding it throughout Germany have come detailed accounts of the origin of the trouble. They elicit amazed press comment in Berlin. The *Reichsbote*, official organ of German Protestantism, prints grave accusations. German military officials, it says, flogged natives with rhinoceros whips until they swooned from loss of blood. The *Vorwärts*, organ of the Socialists, makes charges, supported by names and dates, implicating leading officials in the mistreatment of native women. It says, moreover, that efforts to procure the dismissal or the punishment of offenders have been baffled by influences emanating from Berlin. The *National Zeitung*, a Liberal organ, says that facts of a serious nature have been suppressed, not only regarding the treatment of the natives, but also with reference to reverses sustained by German troops. "Strong military outposts must be established in the colony," thinks the *Tägliche Rundschau*, "and be maintained for some years, with garrisons, possibly, of four thousand troops." As to the basis upon which German supremacy must ultimately be established, the official *Kreuz Zeitung* says:

"Be the origin of the Herero rising what it may—and we consider many current reports far from having any basis in fact—one thing is certain. In our relations with the natives a new policy will have to be decided upon. A model in this respect was undeniably furnished by the Boers. They would, under no circumstances whatever, permit the blacks to carry European weapons. They further insisted that the white man should be treated with outward manifestations of a recognition of his superior position. Legal equality of the two races is false in itself, and can only lead to conditions that sow the seeds of disturbance. Even in the United States, in spite of the incomparably favorable conditions originally presented there, the only result yet reached is a labyrinth of artificialities and lies, of which every American who speaks frankly avows himself ashamed. But the relations between the Boers and the blacks were on a sound basis. On one side were the white masters; on the other were the humanely yet rigorously treated subjects, held in outward manifestations of awe."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

GERMANY'S WORLD-POLITICS AND THE ANGLO-FRENCH PACT.

FOR reasons which they do not set forth very definitely, certain Austrian organs of a somewhat official character intimate that Germany is discontented, if not apprehensive, in consequence of the much-heralded Anglo-French accord. London organs and Paris organs have as yet ignored Germany in their comments on the topic. Not so the *Neue Freie Presse* (Vienna), said to reflect the sentiments of the Austrian Foreign Office. This paper sees in the great pact a decided obstacle to German world-politics, and says so frankly:

"The most youthful of the colonial Powers, whose interests and ambitions beyond the seas have been amplified with such energy—altho, as the rebellion in German Southwest Africa demonstrates, not quite fortunately—will in the future steer her course in the direction of that future which lies upon the water with rather more caution. Side by side the two mightiest colonial Powers will interpose an obstacle to the eager expansiveness of Germany's colonial policy. Of these two Powers, the traditional foe is still France. Great Britain, on the other hand, has for a long time cherished suspicion and ill-will because of Germany's rivalry on the deep. Statesmen in Berlin must perforce adapt themselves to the staggering novelty of an Anglo-French accord."

On the authority of "an exalted diplomatist," the Austrian daily

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propounds the idea that the accord will in time diminish the importance of Germany to Russia, and even lead to intervention in the Far East on a strictly Anglo-French basis. "This is future music," the exalted personage is said to have opined, "but how recently an Anglo-French accord would have been styled future music!" The *Politische Correspondenz* (Vienna), known to have excellent sources of information, hints that an Anglo-Russian accord, as comprehensive as the Anglo-French accord, is slowly maturing in some capital which it does not specify. Such hints, the London *Standard* thinks, "deserve attention"; but the Berlin *Kreuz Zeitung*, an official organ likewise, deems the antagonism between Great Britain and Russia too permanent a factor in world-politics for any accord. However, it does not conceal its surprise at the Anglo-French accord. Up to the eleventh hour, it pronounced such an accord "something against all probability," and it is at present in a state of indignation for reasons which it thus elaborates:

"How is such shameless agitation against Germany to be characterized at a time when our benevolent neutrality makes it possible for Russia to send her troops to the Far East without anxiety, and when we have done everything possible to maintain peace in the Balkans? Truly, in such circumstances, the question may be seriously asked if it would not be better to direct German policy westward instead of eastward, and to let affairs in the Balkans go their way, taking as much advantage as possible of the situation of the world."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

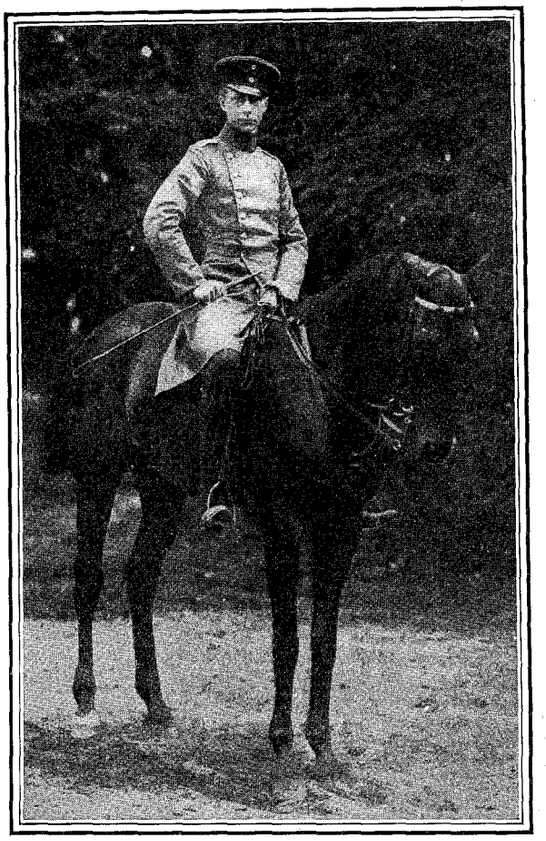
GROWING GRAVITY OF EMPEROR WILLIAM'S CASE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the circumstantiality and the indignation of official Berlin denials that Emperor William's health justifies anxiety, London newspapers are drifting more and more to the conviction that the imperial patient's vigor has now become sufficiently undermined to influence German policy. "We deeply regret," says the London *Mail*, "to learn that the health of the German Emperor continues to give cause for grave anxiety, and that the removal of the polypus from his Majesty's vocal chord on November 8 has not resulted in the permanent relief which was expected." It reproduces, at the same time, an elaborate official denial of the truth of its own statement. The London *Times* is another daily whose editorial columns flatly contradict the official optimism in its news despatches. It goes much further than its contemporary in surmising a direct connection between German policy and the ill health of William II. Noting that Germany has stood aloof from the Balkan question in recent months, and that the action in the Far East partakes of none of her characteristic boldness, the London organ adds:

DR. MORITZ SCHMITZ.

This famous throat specialist of Frankfort-on-the-Main, who removed the polypus from William II.'s vocal chord, says the Emperor is in good health; but rumors to the contrary again circulate.

"Her relations with this country have, moreover, been influenced in no small degree by her desire to avoid any friction in the economic sphere which might in any way strengthen the growing feeling here that Great Britain ought to possess weapons which would enable her to engage on equal terms in fiscal warfare. These and other causes have combined to induce Germany to content herself for a time with a much smaller instrument than she had been accustomed for many years before to play in the international concert. It may, perhaps, be surmised that another cause, which we in common with other well-wishers of Germany would sincerely regret, has contributed to this result. In November last the German Emperor underwent an operation for polypus on the vocal cord, and tho at the time the wound was said to be completely healed, there is reason to believe that all danger of a recrudescence of the trouble has not yet been averted. It is not easy to harmonize the ominous rumors which are once more beginning to circulate with the characteristic vivacity displayed by William II. at his meeting with the King of Italy at Naples, but we seem to have missed in the last six months the evidences of that all-pervading energy which at one time excited the wonder of the world."



THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCE.

A late portrait of the young man who, in accordance with the hereditary monarchical principle of which William II. is the champion, is being prepared, by a military training, to rule German subjects.

The indignation of the *Hamburger Nachrichten* at this is extreme. "In order that we may not once more bring down upon ourselves the silly twaddle that we are baiting England," it says, "we shall leave the official organs of Berlin to deal with this utterance. We do, however, reproduce it. The scornful tone that is characteristic in it will have its effect upon the German reader without further comment." Official organs in Berlin have yet to act upon the hint of the Hamburg daily in the precise sense indicated. At the same time, the *National Zeitung* (Berlin), the *Vossische Zeitung* (Berlin), and the *Post* (Berlin) are printing elaborate and regular accounts of the Emperor's physical condition. They lay stress upon the clearness and strength of the royal patient's voice. But the *Intransigeant* (Paris) has information which points to a coming crucial phase in the treatment of the Emperor's throat, and we find the London *Spectator* in a state of bewilderment, unable to guess at the truth.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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GERMANY SUSPECTED OF PROVOKING AN INTERVENTION.

GERMAN official organs predicted when the war began that the attitude of the Berlin Government would be misrepresented and impugned in London. But the first formal impeachment of German neutrality proceeds from Paris. The *Echo de Paris* accuses the Berlin Government of having established a press bureau in London for the dissemination through the English newspapers of attacks upon France. Whatever the basis of this accusation, it has not yet appeared that British organs are evincing hostility to French policy in the Far East. In fact, London dailies and London periodicals are emphasizing the importance of friendliness toward France and of caution as regards Germany. *The National Review* (London) was never more severe in denouncing "the machinations of Germany, whose single object throughout the Far Eastern crisis has been to engineer a universal conflagration involving every other Power except herself." Many other leading exponents of English public opinion could be quoted to the same effect. This fact is tending to aggravate German newspapers, which insist almost daily that Germany will remain quite neutral. The *Vossische Zeitung* (Berlin), a National Liberal organ, free from official affiliations, declares on the subject of neutrality:

"As matters are now shaping themselves, it makes no difference whether the war remains confined to the Powers now actively waging it or whether other Powers directly intervene, Germany will not be one of these intervening Powers—at least so far as the future can now be foreseen. The German Government is observing the strictest neutrality. It has no treaty obligations affecting the area of hostilities. It has no political interests there. Unaffected by any jealous or self-seeking considerations, the German nation certainly regrets that matters have gone the length of war; but it does not sit in judgment upon foreign nations and their affairs. Naturally, there are sympathies and antipathies among the people, and these feelings are not always dissembled. But they have no effect upon the policy of the Government, which is not guided by sentiment, but by regard for practical interests. And these interests dictate neutrality, as far as possible the restriction of the war to its theater of origin, and the maintenance of peace among the other Powers."

But this tone is not taken by some German organs which are presumed to speak under official or semi-official inspiration. The *Rheinisch-Westfälische Zeitung*, supposed to convey at times the views of a section of the German diplomatic world, remarks:

"Officially the German Government can not speak otherwise than it has done (in the declaration of neutrality). But we anticipate that it will act in another spirit altogether, for if it does not endeavor to influence in a manner favorable to ourselves questions which are of vast importance to the future of the German people, 'the fine days the Emperor will bring about' will perhaps never dawn at all. When the United States went into the war with Spain, it declared that it had no intention of acquiring territorial possessions. Nevertheless it took Porto Rico and the Philippines. When England began the Boer war, she said she had no wish to alter territorial sovereignties. But she swallowed up the two republics. Between the acts and the words of statesmen there is and there must be a great difference. A genius like Bismarck, it is true, did not tell such obligatory lies. But in this particular we do not ask Chancellor von Bülow to resemble the first chancellor. We ask only that he win for us a good place in the world."

Utterances of this temper are frequently finding their way into British organs although the *Echo de Paris* says English dailies are now so friendly to France that they refuse to insert articles inspired by the German press bureau in London. The news-sheet *Continental Corresondence* (Berlin), published in English, and used at times as a vehicle for the conveyance of official views, repudiates all insinuations and imputations. "Great injustice," it says, "has been done to Germany." But in an elaborate study of Germany's present attitude in all that relates to the war, we find the *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels) saying:

"Particular attention is paid, in this Russo-Japanese conflict, to the attitude adopted by Germany, and there is speculation regarding what can be the secret thoughts of William II., the Emperor who has in mind only and always the special interests of his empire. No doubt Germany has officially declared her neutrality, but there are things in the attitude of a sovereign which can not be misunderstood. From the very beginning of the war William II. has lost no opportunity of manifesting his sympathy to the Czar. Immediately after the attack upon Port Arthur the Emperor sent Colonel Schenk to the Czar with an autograph letter. The Emperor's envoy was received in St. Petersburg by the Czar with the utmost cordiality, and was handed in turn an autograph letter for the German sovereign. It may be inferred from this that the court of Berlin attaches importance just now to displaying the cordiality of its relations with the court of St. Petersburg. No act being vain or useless in exalted political spheres, it may be asked precisely what is the real purpose of Germany, the more so as, judging from the language of the newspapers, German public opinion is not at all like that of the German court.

"To begin with, it may be conjectured that official Germany seeks to checkmate England. Berlin has not yet forgiven the anti-German outbreaks of the English press when the project of a German-British alliance was put forward. There are in Berlin ancient rancors which seek gratification, and it must certainly be gratifying to William II. to show Edward VII. that he can do without the precious sympathy of England. On the other hand, it is asserted that Germany would not be sorry to take advantage of present events to try to supplant French influence at the court of St. Petersburg. This supposition seems to us puerile and absurd. Germany can have amicable relations with Russia without any detriment to the Dual Alliance. In fact, Germany may be seeking to establish herself on a friendly footing with Russia for the purpose of subsequently improving her relations with France. We do not say that this is the state of the case. We are merely looking into the very delicate and very difficult game now being played by the court of Berlin.

"For our part, we have no confidence whatever in the apparent cordiality of present Russo-German relations, and that because Germany, as a matter of fact, has nothing to gain by playing Russia's game. Just now Germany is obliged to respect the *status quo* in the Far East, but it is evident that she would ask nothing bettter than to profit from general complications to establish herself definitely in China. It should be remembered that Germany began the dismemberment of China, and that, at the time of the suppression of the troubles caused by the Boxers, she took the greatest pains to gain the leadership of the movement to suppress those troubles and to prolong the military occupation of Pe-chi-li. Germany desires to possess the Shantung peninsula, and she would not be at all sorry if either the Japanese or the Russians violated China's integrity, which would necessarily lead to new arrangements, and which would no doubt hasten the final dismemberment of China.

"The policy of Germany—a formidable Power cramped within its own boundaries in Europe and seeking colonial possessions at any cost—is to fish in troubled waters. This is why no importance, we think, need be attached to the friendly personal demonstrations between the Czar and the Emperor William. When some decisive event in the present war has occurred, the Government at Berlin will adopt a definite attitude, and that attitude will not be the one maintained hitherto—there need be no doubt about that."

The most definite and responsible conjecture yet made regarding the German attitude is that of the London *Spectator*, which observes:

"The German Emperor has it in his power at any moment to place the French in a most difficult position; and being the able diplomatist that he is, one may not unreasonably canvass the notion of his using his power. Suppose that later on, say, when the war has run another six months, and when the Russians are greatly exhausted and in peril of even worse things happening to them, the German Emperor, after privately sounding the Russians and obtaining their assent, were to say to the French: 'Let us end this horrible and dangerous war by a friendly intervention.' Russia is willing, and Japan will doubtless see reason when we approach her, just as she did in 1895.' . . . If this proposal were made to France by Germany with the full acquiescence and approval of Russia, how could the French meet it?"—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE DAY.

DIGNITY AND PASSION.

HENDERSON. By Rose E. Young. Cloth, 189 pp. Price, $1.25. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THERE is so much strength in this book that one glances with regretfulness at some deficiency in the matter of form. The elements are so good that a defter craftmanship in combining them would be a fitting concomitant. It is a love-story. Henderson is a young doctor who has drifted into a bustling Missouri town, Penangton. His career, or absence of career, up to then has been disconcerting through lack of success. At the medical college in Chicago he had been greatly influenced by the exalted views of a physician's profession entertained by Alden, dean of the faculty. He had been charged with conviction that it was a "noble profession" and that life was only to be regarded as opportunity for exercise of it. So he had been idealized in his own eyes, and the failure to achieve had wrought a desolating leaven in him by the time he sank, so to speak, to Penangton.

ROSE E. YOUNG.

He meets a woman in the car which is to take him to the snappily named place, and she is *the* Woman. He lives up to Alden after that, for she is the wife, the loving wife, of a big, strong, successful man, Hardin Shore, who was utterly devoted to her. Henderson becomes the friend of both, and has to perform a delicate and dangerous surgical operation on Shore to preserve him—for the woman whom Henderson loves. Later the wife gets typhoid, and in her wanderings of mind reveals to the young physician her feelings toward him. He brings her back—to her husband. Then, having been so noble, for they know, psychically, how each stands toward the other, and each seeks protection in loyal devotion to the vigorous but unideal husband, the reward comes. A tree crashes down upon Hardin Shore and he dies from his injuries. Mrs. Shore goes abroad for two years, and then returns and marries the constant Henderson.

Miss Young is all right in her feeling, and conceives character adequately. But she does not tell her tale with easy enough continuity. She gives it in large blocks, perhaps electively; but a smoother welding would not detract from the strength and would add quality to her technique.

There is a strong scene when Shore is being operated upon by Henderson. He has insisted that Henderson shall excise the sarcoma that otherwise will be his doom. The sickness of the wife and Henderson's telepathic union of spirit with her in her wanderings are also strongly described with sympathetic color. But Lynn Shore, on the occasion of her first meeting with Henderson, is at dissonance with herself, as pictured later. She is quite familiar, almost flirtatious, with the perfect stranger who is the one other occupant of the horse-car on that dark night, and who, in the absence of the drunken driver, guides its course himself. Again, Henderson, dejected by a gray, drizzly day, almost falls in love with his landlady's daughter, especially when she sits in the rose-red glow of the light, because he has seen Mrs. Shore in that sort of roseate illumination. It would seem more likely had he resented the rather commonplace Miss Penang's association with a *couleur de rose* which had become so set apart.

CLASSICAL SCHOLARSHIP.

A HISTORY OF CLASSICAL SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE SIXTH CENTURY B.C. TO THE END OF THE MIDDLE AGES. By John Edwin Sandys, Litt.D., Cambridge, England. Cloth, pp. xxiv+672. Price, $3.50 net. The Macmillan Co.

AFTER histories of literature come histories of histories of literature. Quite recently Mr. Sainstbury produced his elaborate "History of Criticism," which, to some extent, went over the same ground as the present volume, tho this deals more with the history of criticism of the past than with criticism strictly so called. Still, there is a certain amount of over-lapping which might have been avoided if Dr. Sandys had kept strictly to the subject indicated by his title. His book would have been less interesting, but somewhat more closely knit together. It would then probably have begun with Alexandria and the first turning of the Greek intellect toward the recovery of the past, with conscious attention to the means of so doing, and from that time onward would deal with scholarship in the strict sense of the term—the interpretation of the meaning of written documents. As a rule, a scholar has to be somewhat of a critic as well, so this gives a certain amount of justification for Dr. Sandys's inclusions, which enable him to deal with such topics as Synesius's letters, John of Damascus' Encyclopedia, the translators from the Arabic like Michael Scott; besides dealing with the Greek writings of the Romans and the Latin writings of the Middle Ages. It is only when he gets to his last chapter that his real topic commences to emanate from its trappings, and he deals directly with the "Survival of the Latin Classics in the Middle Ages." This will ultimately lead to a second volume, in which it is to be hoped he will stick more closely to his subject, which in itself is a by no means negligible branch of human intellectual striving.

Most folk little know the immense alteration in human feeling which has been brought about by merely textual changes in the classical writings. The so-called "higher criticism" of to-day is nothing more than a child of the classical scholarship of the Renaissance.

A SOCIAL REFORM EXPERIMENT-STATION.

THE STORY OF NEW ZEALAND. By Frank Parsons. Cloth, 812 pp. Price, $3. Edited and published by C. F. Taylor.

NOT the first of the season's books to treat of the unusual development of New Zealand, this work is also not the first to find that country a land of Utopian promise, in which future development is foreshadowed by present achievement. The late Henry Demarest Lloyd, in his "Newest England," told of some of the strides the island democracy has made in recent years. Here is more of the same matter, with the why and the wherefore set down, with nice discrimination between seeming and real successes.

It is a remarkable story. Before 1840 the islands were under no government save that of some hundreds of Maori chiefs. In less than sixty-five years they have taken a position which, if we can believe the historian, is well in advance of all other nations in politico-social progress. To one unfamiliar with New Zealand history, it is a fascinating story; as the advertiser delights to say, "it reads like a novel." Annexation to England took place in 1840; thirteen years later a constitution was adopted, and in another thirteen, while the infant colony was yet in swaddling-clothes, the first step toward national ownership was taken. The provincial governments had already, in several instances, built and maintained telegraph lines, but they were poor affairs. In 1865 the General Assembly authorized the establishment of government lines, and provided for a commissioner to conduct the bureau. This first experiment in public ownership was a success, and subsequently the Government undertook the building and maintenance of telephone lines, finally making the two businesses one department of the postal system. The national Government thus became a successful competitor in two highly important lines of business enterprise. But it did not rest there. Believing that the people could better be served through the medium of public than through private management, in 1884 the Electric Lines act was passed, giving the two businesses completely into the hands of the national Government, and forbidding all other persons or corporations from erecting or maintaining lines for public use. Such was the beginning. Five years later there was enacted a very important law, known as the Public Works act, and empowering the premier to raise certain sums to be expended in national works. The author quotes the Hon. William Pember Reeves, first Minister of Labor in New Zealand, as saying about this policy:

"In 1870 the colonists were without the conveniences and in many cases the comforts of civilization. They had scarcely any railroads, few telegraphs, insufficient roads, bridges, and harbors. Education was not universal, and the want of recreation and human society was so great as to lead notoriously to drunkenness and coarse debauchery. New Zealand is now a pleasant and highly civilized country. That she has become so in the last thirty years is chiefly due to the public-works policy."

Under this act $20,000,000 were borrowed, and to it $40,000,000 in state lands were added, and roads, bridges, railroads, telegraphs, and waterworks were built by the national Government. New Zealand's first great move in material development was accomplished. The same year that saw this innovation marked the entry of the Government into the life-insurance business. This department has been popular from the start; by the last report it did one-half the business of the colony. The author states that the Government employs paid canvassers, uses attractive and skilfully worded circulars, occupies handsome offices, and pays taxes like a private company. By her next steps (1878) the fearless young colony secured the establishment of a government trust company, and of the first embryonic land-value tax, which latter, however, was short-lived. Political changes brought about the abolition of the provinces with their parliaments, the Government being centered in one system of representation; the adoption of residential franchise and the establishment, in 1889, of the one-man-one-vote system in the place of plurality of votes according to the wealth of the voter; and of direct nominations by the people.

But despite this succession of "good things," New Zealand was at this time in anything but an amiable frame of mind. Chronic indigestion of the land question the author diagnoses as the trouble, and he points to the political revolution of 1890 as the cure. When the people realized that they held in their hands, by the one-man-one-vote suffrage

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and direct nominations, a simple and effectual remedy for their ills, there was a grand rally of Liberals, trades-unionists, and labor-party men, and by the election of December 5, 1890, the bloodless revolution was accomplished, and the Liberal leader Ballance was elected, with a strong Liberal-Labor House behind him. To tell of the many reforms and innovations that have taken place under successive Liberal administrations would be to fill a book. A mention of the more important measures, however, would note that the terms of Senators were reduced from life to seven years; a permanent national progressive land and income tax was adopted, with exemption of tax on improvements and on small holdings; this was followed by a graduated inheritance tax. This pressure of taxation, aided by state resumption and purchase, has accomplished the nationalization of land, which is now never sold, but is leased in perpetuity. Compulsory voting was adopted, and women granted the suffrage; a triennial refrendum on the liquor question, an eight-hour work-day with weekly half-holiday, were put into operation; industrial arbitration was secured by the act of 1894, and since its passage, says the author, there have been no strikes or lockouts; cooperation was adopted, with direct employment on public works and the abolition of the contractor system; state ownership and operation of coal-mines have commenced, and old-age pensions have been secured to "veterans of work." These things are, we are assured, no longer in the experimental stage, but are the established order of the commonwealth.

MOSES AND THE PHARAOH.

THE YOKE. By Elizabeth Miller. Cloth, 616 pp. Price, $1.50. The Bobbs-Merrill Company.

THIS fascinating romance is one whose perusal will bounteously reward any reader. It is far ahead of the majority of historical novels, very much better than many that have made fortunes and fame for their authors. In "The Yoke," Miss Miller has artistically blended into the smoothest and most substantial unity strong and diverse things. Her sub-title is, "A Romance of the Days when the Lord Redeemed the Children of Israel from the Bondage of Egypt." In the "Author's Note" which follows the novel, Miss Miller says:

"While Europe was yet a vast tract of gloomy forests, and morasses and plains; while the stone that was to rear Troy was yet scattered on the slopes of Ida, Mena, the first Pharaoh of the first dynasty, deflected the Nile against the Arabian hills and built Memphis in its bed. So saith the writings that are graven in stone. If this be true, this story deals with a quaint but efficient civilization that was already three thousand years old fourteen centuries before Christ."

The time of the story is therefore the fourteenth century before Christ, when the Pharaoh on the throne was Meneptah, the weak son of the great Rameses II. and his queen, Neferari Thermuthis, who had discovered the infant Moses in the bulrushes on the Nile and became a foster-mother to him. The children of Israel had been in bondage in Egypt four hundred and thirty years. Moses, who had fled into Midian after killing an Egyptian, and remained there and married, had been commanded by the Lord to return to Egypt and be the spokesman for his down-trodden people with the Pharaoh. His efforts in their behalf with the tergiversating Meneptah, the plagues sent upon the land to punish his shifty policy, and the final engulfing of the Egyptian host in the Red Sea, into which, but not out of which, they chased the flying Israelites, are all incorporated into the story.

But Miss Miller has a hardy imagination, and the utmost artistic adroitness in making these incidents subsidiary to her motif as a story-teller: the ardent love of Kenkenes, an ideal Egyptian youth, passionately enamored of Rachel, a Hebrew girl, who works in the "chain-gang" at the quarries of Masaarah, furnishes this motif. Kenkenes is son of Mentu, a princely sculptor, who had been the foremost architect of Rameses, and is a sculptor himself. But the young man is so fond of beauty that his artistic soul rebels against the restrictions imposed upon art by the priests, and he determines to give his yearning aspiration full vent by carving the Goddess of Love, Athor, as his fancy dictates. This is sacrilege. He goes to the quarries of Masaarah to carve his statue in one of its secluded corners. There he meets Rachel, finds in her his ideal Athor, and they fall in love with each other. But Rachel is the very embodiment of Israelitic faith, and their union seems hopeless.

With equal sympathy, artistic grasp, and consistency, the author sets forth the religion of the Egyptian with its polytheism, and of Israel with Jehovah, its one Almighty God. There is no irreverence in the way in which the plagues help on the action. Through one, help is brought to Rachel in dire extremity, and at another crisis the darkness that falls suddenly on Egypt is the girl's protection. So, too, when the Angel of Death smites the first-born of the Egyptian, in a passage of extraordinarily graphic force, Kenkenes is represented as feeling the terrible chill of the angelic minister of death, but survives it, altho he is the "first-born" of the Egyptian Mentu. But this one seeming exception to the universal sentence is quite reasonably explained and purged of any irreligious daring by the mental attitude of the young Egyptian at the time. He was already an Israelite at heart.

The Egyptian "color" is finely given by Miss Miller in her description of daily life, scenes at Meneptah's court, and allusions to the religion of this time-saturated race. She has thoroughly assimilated it, and knows the topography of ancient Egypt as comprehensively as she does its religion and daily routine of manners. There is no air of display, no lugging in of erudition. She uses her archeology as a mason does mortar for his building.

Miss Miller's style is excellent, tho not, as a rule, to the degree of inspiring delight by its own grace. Now and then she has descriptive passages which are brilliant and most eloquent. She is not given to reflections or enlargement on themes, abstractly. What she knows and what she needs for her purpose fuses itself with the text very effectively but simply. But in one place there is a note of the modern woman which has an unmistakable tang of personal feeling. Miss Miller's attitude toward the devout Egyptian and the devout Israelite is intelligent and sympathetic, but there is not a twitter of ultra-religiosity, cant, or personal bias. The dedication runs: "To Percy Miller, my Brother, who constructed the Plot." The plot is excellent, but the combining of historical fact and imagination is the superlative merit of "The Yoke." The length, 616 pages, seems appalling until you begin to read, when you feel grateful for every page.

LETTERS OF ANOTHER DIPLOMAT'S WIFE.

LETTERS FROM ENGLAND. By Elizabeth Davis Bancroft (Mrs. George Bancroft). Cloth, 216 pp. Price, $1.50 net. Charles Scribner's Sons.

THESE letters, by the wife of George Bancroft, the historian, cover the period from 1846 to 1849, during which that gentleman was United States Minister to England, under the Polk Administration. It was Mrs. Bancroft's first trip abroad, and her previous association with life in official circles had consisted of one year in Washington (1845), when Mr. Bancroft was Secretary of the Navy. She had, therefore, an untaxed freshness for the impressions she received at the Court of St. James and in the most aristocratic circles of London society.

That these letters were sent to relatives, with whom her new experiences could be shared quite unreservedly, is without doubt partly the reason for a simplicity in her record of persons and events that almost borders on *naïveté;* but Mrs. Bancroft's explicit statement of her attitude toward the station and phases of life into which she was thrown prove that it was an interesting study and diversion rather than an atmosphere she desired or found most in keeping with her aspirations.

The letters in any case lack the verve, the sensitive, and *enjoué* appreciation which breathe from the "Letters of a Diplomat's Wife" published last year. Madame Waddington, their author, was the daughter of Charles King, president of Columbia College. She was educated in America; but after her father's death she went with her mother and sisters to live in France. So that, without any disloyalty to her native land, she became thoroughly Europeanized. Elizabeth Davis (Mrs. George Bancroft), born in Plymouth, Mass., and educated at Hingham, never forgot her pride in a "Pilgrim fathers'" ancestry. She married the junior partner of Daniel Webster when she was twenty-two, and, made a widow by his death a few years later, became the wife of George Bancroft, a widower with three children.

The success of the "Letters of a Diplomat's Wife" (there were five impressions of the book in 1903 and one last January) promised no slight vogue to these "Letters from England," since in authors and in material there was such a parity. Comparison of the two records will be inevitable to a reader of them both, and as inevitably will he have conviction that Mrs. Bancroft's letters must yield precedence to those of Mrs. Waddington. In the first place, Mrs. Bancroft's cover only three years in England, while Mrs. Waddington's embrace a period from 1883 to 1901, which, besides the ten years of M. Waddington's French Ambassadorship in London, supply even more interesting reading in the vivid description of the coronation of the Czar, at which her husband was Ambassador Extraordinary. Mrs. Waddington, therefore, had more exciting things to chronicle and met more "Personages." But the greatest point of difference between the two ladies' chronicles is that of touch and temperament. Mrs. Waddington is always so serenely sure of herself, exuberantly living up to every demand upon her, socially or intellectually, and she tells it all with a sprightliness and humor that put her in the class of Mme. de Sevigné and Lady Mary Wortley Montagu. Mrs. Bancroft smacks more of the conventional, and there is a certain primness of appraisal, a measured dutifulness of commentary, that savors of New England.

Yet it would be inexcusable to convey the impression that Mrs. Bancroft's letters are dull reading. They are not, and as her phase of London life, tho thirty-five years antecedent to Mrs. Waddington's, was at the same court and under the same queen, it is very pleasant to hear how analogous things took place then.

One very interesting meeting which Mrs. Bancroft recounts was with Lady Byron and her daughter, Lady Lovelace, the "Ada" of Byron's poetry. She was then living at Esher, sixteen miles from London, devoting her large wealth to others. She was fifty-five, and the Lovelaces and their two children lived near her. There are many such touches in Mrs. Bancroft's letters, and they are very enjoyable to those of this generation to whom these persons are as traditions.

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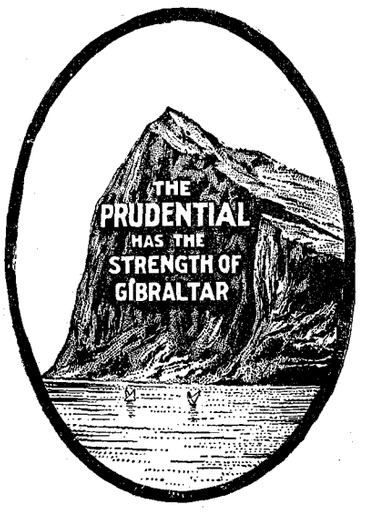

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"Essays for the Day.—Theodore T. Munger. (227 pp.; $1 net. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"High Noon."—Alice Brown. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., $1.50.)

"The Neighbor."—Nathaniel S. Shaler. (342 pp.; $1.40 net. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"Methods of Industrial Peace."—Nicholas Paine Gilman. (436 pp.; $1.60 net. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"William Penn."—A. C. Buell. (D. Appleton & Co.)

"How to Know Oriental Rugs."—Mary B. Langten. (244 pp.; $2 net. D. Appleton & Co.)

"William Butler Yeats and the Irish Literary Revival."—Horatio Sheafe Krans. (191 pp. McClure, Phillips & Co.)

"The Court of Sacharissa."—Hugh Sheringham. (The Macmillan Company, $1.50.)

"The New International Encyclopedia."—Vols. XV., XVI., XVII. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)

"Cosmos."—Ernest McCaffey. (The Philosopher Press, Wausau, Wis.)

"The Life of John A. Andrew."—Henry Greenleaf Pearson. (Two volumes, 682 pp.; $5 net. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"The Golden Treasury of Songs and Lyrics."—Francis T. Palgrave. (The Macmillan Company, $0.25.)

"Football Poker." (The Reilly & Britton Company, $0.50.)

"The North Star."—M. E. Henry-Ruffin. (Little, Brown & Co., $1.50.)

"The Woodcarver of 'Lympus."—M. E. Waller. (Little, Brown & Co., $1.50.)

"The Silent Places."—Edward Stewart White. (McClure, Phillips & Co., $1.50.)

"A Little Tragedy at Tien-Tsin."—Frances A. Matthews. (Robert G. Cooke, New York, $1.50.)

"The Picaroons."—Gelett Burgess and Will Irwin. (McClure, Phillips & Co., $1.50.)

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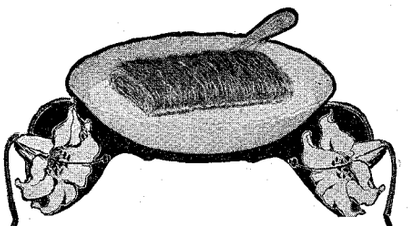
The seasons flash and fade;
Old comrades pass, old memories die,
Himself still unafraid.

He knows the irony of Death
Is but a jest of Fate;
And his the task, with even breath,
To steadfast watch and wait.

Power and spoil, he needs them not,
Ambition's voice, nor Fame's;



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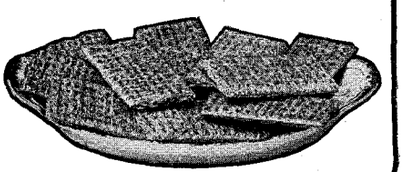

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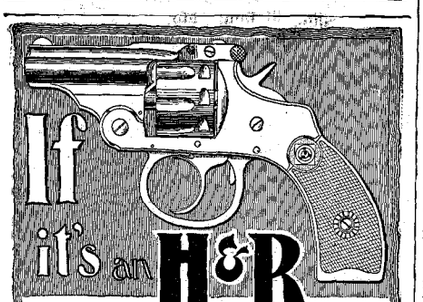

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Dirges or wedding chime;
He bides in peace, with stoic soul,
Himself the peer of Time.

Content, whate'er shall cross his ways;
Happy, if Fortune send
Out from the wrecks of nights and days
One woman, and a friend.

—From *The Mirror* (St. Louis).

Sisters of the Little Sorrows.

By JULIET WILBOR TOMPKINS.

From visions of gray to-morrows,
All patient and sore dismayed,
Come ye of the Little Sorrows,
To whom no tears are paid:
The hurt, who may not stagger,
Who dare not nurse their stings—
For wounds are of sword and dagger,
And thorns are little things!

'Tis only your beauty failing,
The youth of your heart grown numb?
Ah, sisters, we sit bewailing
Your daily martyrdom:
And she who treads the city
With feet that mourn the wild,
She shares our aching pity;
And she who bears no child;

And she of the crumbling altars;
And she who must earn her bread
By paths where the spirit falters;
And she whose friend is dead;
And she who'd fain recover
The spendthrift days that were;
And the heart that found no lover—
Kind Lord, they laugh at her!

The wounds that are not of sabres
Shall never be understood,
But pity may ease your labors,
O patient Sisterhood!
For there be hearts no sadder,
Nor truer right to mourn,
Tho the wasp is not the adder,
One dies not of the thorn.

—From *Scribner's Magazine*.

PERSONALS.

Children Cried for Hobson.—Captain Richard P. Hobson was recently a candidate for Congress from Alabama, but was defeated after a hard campaign by Representative Bankhead. In adverting to the hard run the hero of Santiago gave him, Mr. Bankhead is reported by the Philadelphia *Ledger* as saying:

"It was a remarkable campaign. The halls were not large enough to hold half the people who came to hear. A very large proportion of them were women and children. Little tots not more than so high (holding his hand about three feet from the floor) were yelling, 'Hobson!'"

"Then a good many of them came to hear Hobson rather than you?"

Mr. Bankhead smiled grimly again.

"Well," said he, "the ladies exerted a powerful influence in behalf of Hobson. If they were not able to make their husbands, brothers, and sweethearts vote for Hobson they were often able to make these voters stop talking for me, and when a man stopped talking, of course, many of the fellows would say he had gone over to Hobson, or was about to go. Yes, it all had an effect."

Hobson made more speeches than Bankhead did, and

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the old ex-Confederate was somewhat surprised by the young officer's powers of endurance. When asked about it he gave that grim smile again, and said: "He sometimes spoke three times a day, and two hours at a time. He is, of course, a well-educated man. He has taken lessons of elocutionists, and then he had experience in lecturing. He has some nice gestures, and he has some eloquent periods, too."

The Money Question.—Mr. W. J. Bryan is the natural repository of many stories about the money question. He was in Kentucky recently and there a new one was sprung on him. We take it from *Lippincott's Magazine*:

A former slave-owner happened to meet one of his ancient retainers the day before the election in 1896, at the close of the whirlwind campaign in which the silver question was the one topic of debate.

"Good-morning, Uncle Zeb," says he. "Are you going to vote to-morrow?"

"Deed Ah is, sah," the old darky replied. "Dat's what dey done freed me for."

"And whom are you going to vote for?"

"Ah done gase Ah'll vote for Mistah McKimsey. Dis heah young Mr. Byron he powerful smart, but Ah done think Mistah McKimsey is mah man."

"But do you understand this money question?" his old master asked.

"Yas, sah, yas, sah, Ah do. Ah'm for round money, sah, round money. Ah doan't want none of dis free-cornered money in mine."

MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

A Modest Request.—*Among a number of notes* received by a teacher in excuse for the absence of children was the following:

"DEAR TEACHER,—Kindly excuse Minnie for having been absent yesterday, as she fell in the mud on her way to school. By doing the same, you will oblige HER MOTHER."

—*Tit-Bits.*

He Helped Himself.—"Well, Bobby, how do you like church?" asked his father, as they walked homeward from the sanctuary, to which Bobby had just paid his first visit.

"It's fine!" ejaculated the young man. "How much did you get, father?"

"How much did I get? Why, what do you mean? How much what?" asked the astonished parent at this evident irreverence.

"Why, don't you remember when the funny old man passed the money around? I only got ten cents."—*Lippincott's Magazine.*

Remarkable Climate.—Colonel Moriarty was defending the climate of India. "All nonsense," he says; "there's no better climate in the world. But there are a lot of young fellows who come out to India, and they eat and they drink, and they drink and they eat, and they die, and then they write home to their friends and tell them that the climate has killed them. Of course, lots of people die in India. Tell me where they don't and I'll go and end my days there."—*Tit-Bits.*

Current Events.

Foreign.

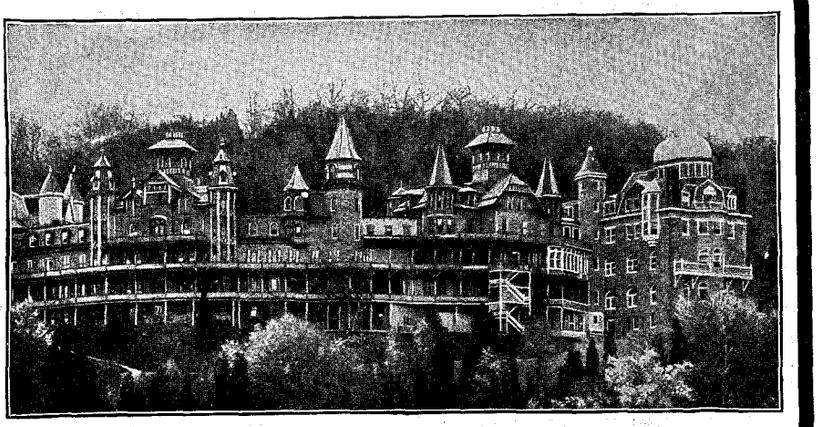
RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

April 18.—Seventy Japanese transports are reported at sea bound for Kin-Chow, north of Port Arthur. A Russian movement from the Tumen receives confirmation from the news that a strong force had seized Puk-Chon, eighty miles north of Won-San.

April 19.—Viceroy Alexeieff asks the Czar to relieve him of his position in the Far East. Russia explains that the order as to wireless telegraphy is merely for self-protection, and that any case arising will be treated on its merits. Continuous skirmishing between the outposts on the Yalu is reported. Advices from Seoul say that about 4,000 Japanese troops have landed west of the Yalu, near Takushan.

April 20.—The Russians, 50,000 strong, are reported in position north of the Yalu. Japanese reinforcements reach Wiju, and their lines are being extended northward along the river.

April 21.—Secretary Hay replies to Russia's note in regard to war correspondents using wireless telegraphy, stating that the United States reserves the right to act in any case where an American citizen is concerned. Russia will arm recently purchased ships and a number of the volunteer fleet to prey upon Japan's commerce.



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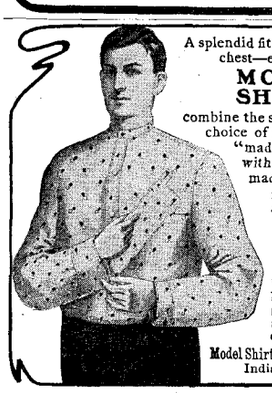

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Viceroy Alexeieff's report to the Czar shows that the battle-ship *Petropavlovsk* was sunk by a Japanese mine. Seventy of the United States Legation guard at Seoul are ordered to Manila.

April 22.—A Russian lieutenant and twenty men, laying mines from a steam launch near Port Arthur, are blown up and killed. General Kuropatkin is declared to have narrowly escaped assassination during his trip to New-Chwang.

April 23.—Russian guns have been mounted on the Yalu to command the crossings.

April 24.—Advices from Seoul say that the Japanese lines have been extended to cover thirty miles along the Yalu, and that more troops have been landed at Yung-Chon. Russians declare that the Japanese do not intend to invade Manchuria, but that Port Arthur and Vladivostock are objectives of the campaign.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

April 18.—Minister Powell announces that the Dominican custom houses would be seized by United States troops if an attempt were made by a foreign nation to enforce settlement of its claims.

April 19.—Fire destroys many buildings in the business section of Toronto; the loss is estimated at $13,000,000.

April 23.—The shareholders of the Panama Canal Company finally ratify the sale of the property to the United States.

April 24.—President Loubet, of France, is royally greeted upon his arrival in Rome.

Domestic.

CONGRESS.

April 18.—*Senate:* The session is devoted to routine business.

House: The General Deficiency bill is passed after a hot fight over the item of $1,500,000 to carry out the provisions of the recent pension order; the bill to strengthen the Chinese exclusion law is inserted as an amendment.

April 19.—*Senate:* The proposed extension of the Capitol is discussed.

House: The bill providing for the admission of two new States formed from Oklahama, Indian Territory, Arizona, and New Mexico, is passed by a vote of 147 to 104.

April 20.—*Senate:* Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, speaks on the trusts and the tariff.

House: The Naval Appropriation bill is sent back to conference, and the bill providing for the allotment of lands of New York Indians is passed.

April 21.—*Senate:* The Pension Appropriation bill, carrying over $137,000,000, and the Emergency River and Harbor bill, carrying $3,000,000, are passed. Angus M. Cannon, a Patriarch of the Mormon Church, testifies in the Smoot inquiry before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

House: A bill providing for the government of the canal zone is passed.

April 22.—*Senate:* The General Deficiency Appropriation bill is discussed. Senator Gallinger, of New Hampshire, makes a speech on the tariff. Testimony tending to show Mormon Church interference in Utah politics is given at the Smoot hearing.

House: The Sundry Civil and the Panama Canal Zone bills are sent to conference committees; 233 private pension bills are passed. Representative Kitchin, of North Carolina, makes a sensational speech assailing the President and Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio.

April 23.—*Senate:* The General Deficiency bill is passed with an amendment practically reaffirming the existing Chinese exclusion laws.

House: Representative Cochran, of New York, and Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, engage in a bitter personal colloquy. The Merchant Marine Commission bill is passed.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

April 18.—The New York Democratic State convention instructs its delegates to vote for Judge Parker for the nomination for President.

Governor Peabody, of Colorado, refuses to give up President Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners on the writ of habeas corpus issued by the Supreme Court of that State.

April 19.—The United States Court at St. Paul decides against E. H. Harriman and Winslow Pierce in their petition to intervene in the Northern Securities case.

The Pennsylvania Democratic State convention refuses to instruct its delegates to the national convention for Parker.

April 20.—The Vermont Republicans instruct their delegates for President Roosevelt.

April 21.—The Massachusetts Democratic State convention instructs its delegates for Richard Olney.

April 22.—The Navy Department receives a report from Captain Cowles on the heroic behavior of his officers and men after the disaster on the *Missouri*.

April 23.—William J. Bryan, in a Chicago hall hired at his own expense, assails the New York Democratic platform and criticizes Judge Parker.

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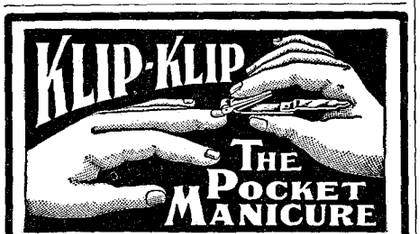

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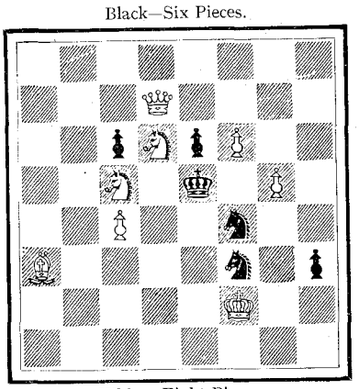
Problem 926.

By A. OKKINGA,

From *Illustracya Polska* Tourney,

Black—Six Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

8; 3Q4; 2pSpP2; 2S1k1P1; 2P2s2; B4s1p; 5K2; 8.

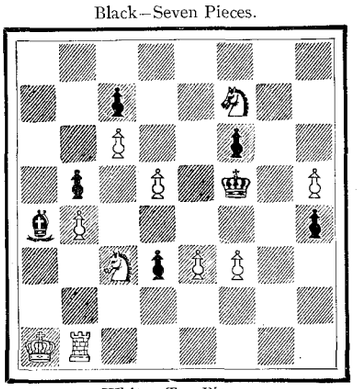
White mates in two moves.

Problem 927.

By E. FERBER.

From *Deutsche Schachzeitung.*

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

8; 2p2S2; 2P2p2; 1p1P1k1P; bP5p; 2SpPP2; 8; KR6

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

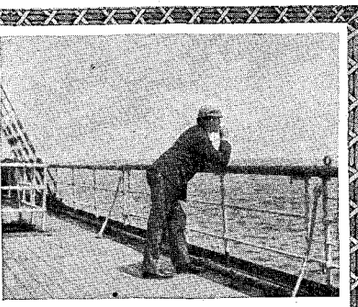
No. 920. Key-move: B—Kt 4.

No. 911

Authors Key: B—Q 2.

Second solution:

1. P x Kt (Kt)	2. K x B	3. Kt x R, mate
B x Q ch	R—Q 3 ch	
	2.	3. Kt—K 7, mate
	P x P	
	2.	3. Kt x Kt P, mate
	Other	
1.	2. Q—Q 5 ch	3. Q x P(R4), mate
P x P	K—Kt 3	



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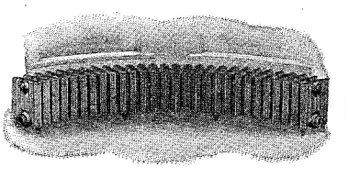

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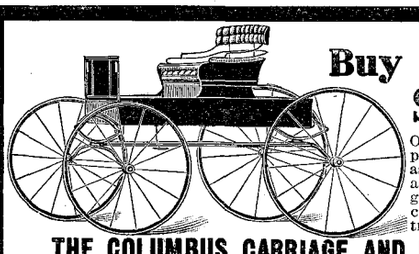

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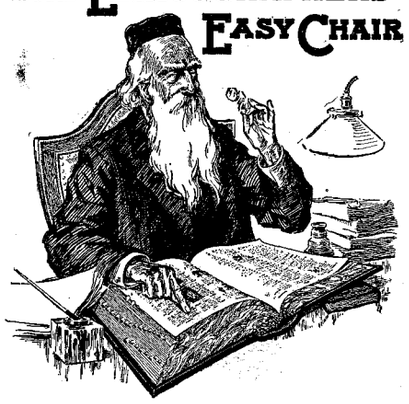

In this column, to decide questions concerning the correct use of words, the Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

"J. F. McL.," Hamilton, Bermuda.—"(1) Where is Azan? (2) Why is it not printed with a capital initial letter in the vocabulary of your dictionary, as it is in the text?"

(1) No such place exists. "Azan" is the muezzin's call to prayer in Mohammedan countries. (2) Because it is not a proper name, but Sir Edwin Arnold wrote it with a capital initial letter in his poem. In the poem,

"He who died at Azan sends
This to comfort all his friends,"

the word means the hour of evening prayer. Among the Mohammedans, one who died at "azan" was deemed blessed, for among them this hour is considered the most propitious for passing to the other world. The term "azan" may be compared with the word "vespers" used by Christians.

"W. D. O.," Baltimore, Md.—"Is the phrase 'a Hibernianism' correct, or should it be 'an Hibernianism'? I would be glad to know of some definite rule for the use of 'a' and 'an' before 'h'."

Before an aspirated "h," as in "Hibernianism," the article "a" should be used. "A" is used when the next word begins with a consonant-sound; "an," when it begins with a vowel or silent "h." Tho ever so feebly aspirated, "h" has something of a consonant sound, and the article in this case ought to conform to the general principle, as in "*a* historic introduction has generally *a* happy effect to arouse attention." One may say correctly: *an* island, *a* Highlander; *an* oysterman, *a* hoister; *a* hotel, *an* onion; *a* herb, *an* heir; *a* house, *an* owl. Some persons do not aspirate the "h" in "herb." When the "h" is not aspirated, the word takes the article "an," not "a."

"B. M. K.," New York City.—"Chic" is not correctly pronounced "chick." In this word "ch" has the sound of "sh," and "i" the sound of "i" in "machine," therefore the correct pronunciation is "sheik."

"F. T. H.," Brooklyn.—"Kindly give me the meaning of the word 'dhobi-itch.' Is the word English or Anglo-Indian?"

"Dhobi-itch" is a peculiar cutaneous irritation, more or less contagious, which is supposed to be conveyed by the low-caste dhobis. The term is an example of the sort of hybrid slang affected by English "Tommies" and "Jackies" in cantonments and docks, from Singapore to Calcutta. It is probably of forecastle origin and is of the kind of jargon picked up in barracks and along shore, which gains currency through the intercourse of sailors with the natives. It is not English, nor is it legitimate Anglo-Indian.

"B. M. B.," Canadian, Texas.—You will find the quotation you ask for in Byron's "Don Juan," canto 3, stanza 86:

"The mountains look on Marathon,
And Marathon looks on the sea;
And musing there an hour alone,
I dream'd that Greece might still be free,
For standing on the Persian's grave,
I could not deem myself a slave."

"W. B. G.," Brooklyn, N. Y.—"Please favor me with the meaning of the word 'grata' in the title, 'Aurora Grata Lodge.' Does it mean great?"

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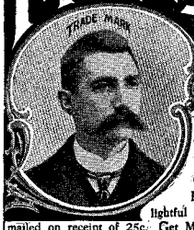

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Eight of the World's Masters in Chess arrived in New York on April 15. They are Lasker, Champion of Champions; Janowski, Champion of France; Tschigorin, Champion of Russia; Schlechter, Champion of Austria; Lawrence, Champion of the City of London Chess-Club; Teichmann, Marco, Mieses, and Marshall.

During the trip across the ocean, the eight masters played a consultation game. Lasker, Tschigorin, Marshall, and Teichmann, moving the white pieces; while Janowski, Marco, Schlechter and Lawrence tried to beat the Rice Gambit. The game:

Rice Gambit.

White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	20 B x R	Q—R 7 ch
2 P—K B 4	P x P	21 K—B sq	P—B 6
3 Kt—K B 3	P—K Kt 4	22 Q—R 8 ch	K—Q 2
4 P—K R 4	P—Kt 5	23 Q—R 4 ch	P—B 3
5 Kt—K 5	Kt—K B 3	24 R—K 7 ch	K x R
6 B—B 4	P—Q 4	25 B—Kt 5 ch	K—Q 2
7 P x P	B—Q 3	26 R—Q sq ch	K—B 2
8 Castles	B x Kt	27 Q—R 5 ch	K—Kt sq
9 R—K sq	Q—K 2	28 Q—K 5 ch	K—R sq
10 P—B 3	B—B 4	29 Q x R ch	K—R 2
11 P—Q 4	Q Kt—Q 2	30 Q—Q 4 ch	P—Kt 3
12 P x B (a)	Kt—R 4	31 K—K sq	P x P
13 P—K 6	P x P	32 B—K 3	P—B 4
14 P x P	Castles, Q R	33 Q—K 5	P queens, ch
15 P x Kt ch	R x P	34 B x Q	Q x B ch
16 Q—K 2	Q x R P	35 K—Q 2	Q—B 7 ch
17 Q—K B 2	P—Kt 6	36 B—K 2	P—Kt 7
18 Q x R P	R—Q 6	37 Q—K 7 ch	K—Kt sq
19 Kt—Q 2	R x Kt	38 Q—K 3	Resigns

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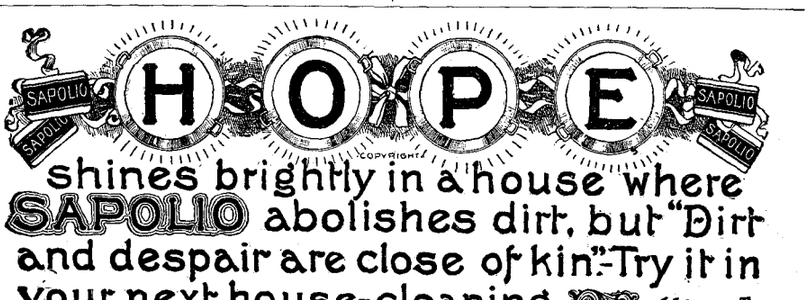

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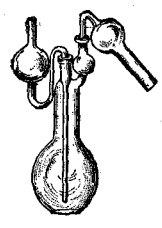
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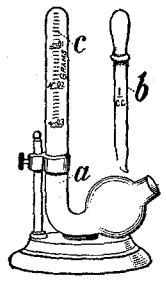

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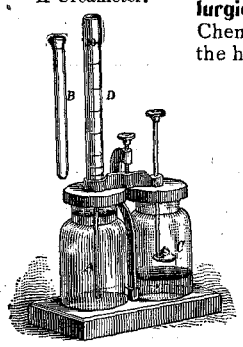
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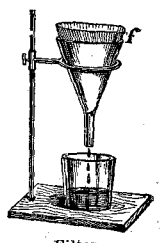
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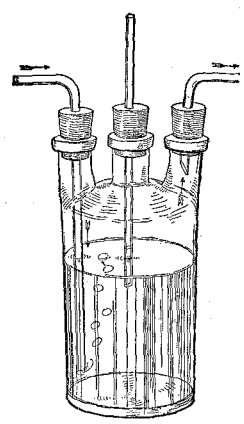
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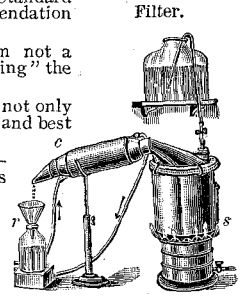
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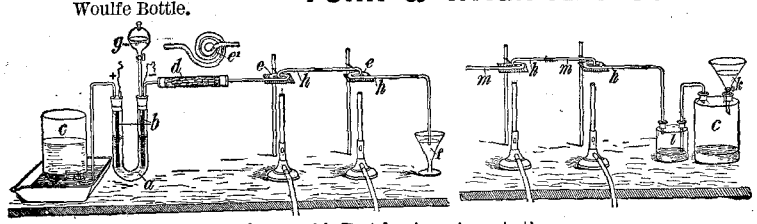
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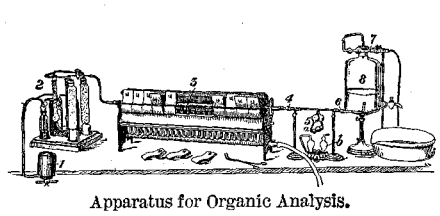
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